Daily Report
East Asia

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Nakayama Expresses Gratitude for U.S. Efforts

OW1005130791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1226 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Friday expressed Japan's gratefulness to U.S. forces stationed in Japan for their efforts during deployment to the Persian Gulf.

Nakayama conveyed the message of gratitude at a gathering of senior Japanese and U.S. military personnel, including Adm. Charles Larson, head of the U.S. Pacific Command, and Lt. Gen. James Davis, resident commander of U.S. Forces in Japan.

The foreign minister lauded the U.S. military forces and their leadership for "accomplishing the goal of the entire international community to overcome Iraq's aggression and restore peace and freedom in the Gulf."

Nakayama said the Gulf crisis had posed a serious challenge to the construction of a new international order based on the values of freedom and democracy. "This challenge has reminded us of the solidarity of the international community and the significance of U.S. leadership," he said.

Japan, for its part, "is determined to play a further role in resolving global issues...in close coordination and cooperation with the United States," Nakayama said.

Nakayama said Japan is likewise determined to uphold the Japan- U.S. security alliance, which he said still serves as the foundation for the bilateral relationship in a world of "unpredictability and instability."

Both Nakayama and Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda pledged that Japan will further exert itself to facilitate the smooth implementation of the two countries' security arrangements, including continued support for U.S. forces stationed in Japan.

Ikeda said the dispatch of a few minesweepers was only a "tiny expression" of Japan's desire to play a greater role, in close cooperation with the U.S., in bringing peace to the world.

Larson hailed Japan's contributions to the coalition effort and its recent agreement to increase host-nation support for U.S. Forces in Japan. He also lauded Japan's recent dispatch of minesweepers to the Persian Gulf.

The U.S. admiral called Japan's contributions "another manifestation of our strong security alliance."

The compliment was in stark contrast to remarks made in Tokyo on Thursday by Richard Armitage, a former U.S. undersecretary of defense, who said the bilateral security alliance was in "the worst shape" it has been in for over a decade.

Tokyo To Urge U.S. To Cut Budget Deficit

OW1105101491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Japan will call on the United States to slash its towering budget deficit and to abolish restrictions on direct investment by foreign firms during trade talks between the two nations later this month, government sources said Saturday.

Tokyo will also ask Washington to remove its export controls on petroleum and other goods during a Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) follow-up meeting in Tokyo on May 20 and 21.

The SII talks, which ended last summer, were aimed at tearing down barriers to trade and investment between the two nations.

The Japanese Government will also urge the U.S. to draw up plans in the near term to introduce the metric system, which it pledged to do in the SII final report issued last June.

The Japanese requests will be included in a progress report to be released on the second and final day of the talks.

The lack of any sign of improvement in the U.S. budget deficit has prompted Japan to reiterate its call for a smaller deficit.

The deficit is expected to reach a whopping 318 billion dollars for fiscal 1991, widely surpassing recent forecasts by the U.S. Government's Office of Management and Budget, despite a pledge by Washington last year to reduce it.

'Limited Progress' in U.S. Semiconductor Talks

OW1205054191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0526 GMT 12 May 91

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, May 12 KYODO—Japan and the United States made limited progress in their semiconductor talks on statistics, third country dumping and remaining sanctions, a high-ranking Japanese official said here late Saturday.

The official, who requested anonymity, said after the finish of eight days of discussions in Washington that negotiations will resume in Tokyo May 17-18 on replacing the 1986 bilateral pact.

The existing agreement expires at the end of July.

"We made progress but a number of key issues and technical problems remain unresolved," the official told reporters.

"Both sides have expressed a desire to reach agreement at an early date, but I am not so optimistic," he added.

Japanese officials said experts on statistics and dumping from both countries will continue their talks on Sunday.

U.S. officials were not immediately available for comment.

In the course of the weeklong talks, including subcabinet-level discussions over the past few days, Japan and the

U.S. worked on a new statistical formula for gauging the degree of foreign access to Japan's chip market.

But the two made little headway on third-country dumping and the lifting of remaining U.S. sanctions on Japan, he said.

"There were no positive signs from the U.S. regarding the sanctions," the official said with regard to the 165 million dollars in sanctions imposed by Washington after it determined that Japan had not complied with market access provisions.

Japan has denied that it promised under terms of the 1986 pact to grant a 20 percent foreign share of the lucrative Japanese market.

Japan has argued that it will not sign a new chip accord with the U.S. as long as the sanction, which is part of a 300 million dollar punitive action, remains in effect.

"The unilateral measure should be removed. The ball is now in the American side's court," he said.

The high-level semiconductor talks were attended by Naomichi Suzuki, Japan's vice minister of International Trade and Industry, U.S. Deputy Trade Representative Linn Williams, and other officials from both countries.

DSP Chairman's Visit to U.S. Continues

Meets With Perez de Cuellar

OW1105050591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] New York, May 10 KYODO—United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Friday endorsed Japanese efforts to eliminate provisions in the United Nations Charter that describe Japan and other nations as former enemy states.

In a 50-minute meeting with Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Japanese opposition Democratic Socialist Party, at UN Headquarters, De Cuellar said he fully supports the Japanese initiative.

The UN chief said he thinks all UN members share his endorsement, said Japanese officials accompanying Ouchi.

Japan repeatedly has called for the deletion of articles 53 and 107 of the UN Charter, which refer to countries that fought the allies in World War II as former enemies.

De Cuellar also expressed his hope that Japan will cooperate more fully with UN peacekeeping operations.

The UN chief was quoted as telling Ouchi that he hopes Japan will contribute to a peaceful settlement of the Cambodian conflict since it is a problem affecting Asia.

Supports Use of SDF Personnel

OW1305115591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1006 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Honolulu, May 12 KYODO—Japanese opposition Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) Chairman Keigo Ouchi on Sunday indicated his support for the use of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel in nonmilitary U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Speaking with reporters during a stopover here on his return from the United States, Ouchi said he prefers having SDF personnel "on leave or temporary transfer" participate in the U.N. operations.

"This (way) would be practical and effective," Ouchi said before discussing the matter in detail in Tokyo with leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and centrist opposition Komeito.

Ouchi, completing his eight-day tour of the U.S., said he explained in his meeting with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that Japan will support a peacekeeping force which would not become involved in military operations.

Japan should be ready to take part in a nonmilitary ceasefire observation team, he added.

But Ouchi acknowleged that the U.N. usually asks a country to send personnel with military training and experience if it is going to take part in a ceasefire observation team.

"If (the participants) do not meet U.N. standards, it would not be an effective organization," Ouchi said of the expected new Japanese peacekeeping organization.

He added that if SDF personnel on leave or temporary transfer were not allowed to take part, the participation of SDF reserves might be another alternative.

Ouchi urged that an agreement on Japanese cooperation with U.N. peacekeeping activities be reached soon in Tokyo, since developments in Cambodia indicate the need in the near future for a ceasefire observation force.

Kaifu Gives News Conference on 10 May

OW1005113591 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0602 GMT 10 May 91

[News conference by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu with unidentified moderator and reporters, at his official residence in Tokyo—live]

[Text] [Moderator] Now we, the cabinet press corps, will begin a customary news conference with the prime minister, marking the close of the Diet session.

First, on behalf of the secretaries, I will ask a question. At the latest 120th Diet session, the government showed a bill enactment rate of nearly 90 percent, and I believe you obtained very good results. On the other hand, there also were a number of issues left unresolved. A typical example is the political reform issue, I think. As regards this issue, Mr. Kaifu, you said at this same place that you would stake your cabinet's fate on political reform and that you would address it with an indomitable resolve. At a meeting of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] yesterday, you reiterated the same thing. Those in the party, however, are still strongly opposed to it. Hence, we would like to hear your perceptions on this. In your opinion, which do you think is stronger in the party—the opinion that calls for political reform, or that which opposes it? Please tell us about this first.

[Kaifu] To state my conclusion first, it is a task that should be carried out. There is no change in my determination.

[Moderator] Well, we know about your determination, but the atmosphere in the LDP is....

[Kaifu, interrupting] I want to say that, although you speak as though this issue was left unresolved at the 120th Diet session, such is not the case. Of all the political reform programs, various reforms have been put into practice on the basis of the Outline of Political Reform adopted by the LDP. Under the partial revisions to the Public Office Election Law, which took effect with the House of Representatives elections in February of last year, for instance, regulations governing qualifications of candidates and eligible voters were set forth. The regulations were the first step in that direction, as you all know. At the 120th Diet session, the bill enactment rate was 89.2 percent, as you pointed out.

However, this percentage reflects government-proposed bills. The government and opposition held various debates, and in the process, there were bills passed by the opposition alone. They include the consumption tax and partial revisions to the Money-Lending Business Law concerning land. I have been putting forth land reform as an important task, and a bill to endorse this has been legislated. I would venture to say that this was made possible through the cooperation of all parties. There also are the Large-Scale Retail Stores Law and the Antimonopoly Law. These bills, which are directly linked to the issue of the opening of Japanese markets, were also passed. In addition, the budget was adopted as many as four times in various names.

[Moderator] I see.

[Kaifu] So, it was not left unresolved.

[Moderator] Mr. Prime Minister, so far you have said that you want to have bills enacted during the ordinary Diet session, or that you want to convene an extraordinary session in June and have bills approved. What I would like to ask you here and now is, since you say there is no change in your indomitable determination....

[Kaifu, interrupting] Yes.

[Moderator] When do you think you can have the bills enacted, or when do you want to have the bills enacted? I think it would be easier for us to understand if you indicate a specific target date.

[Kaifu] Please put aside what I have said heretofore. The so- called Basic Outline of Political Reform was adopted on 25 December last year. Currently, I am having the party continue making energetic efforts with regard to the task of working out an outline of the bill. The government is not doing this work arbitrarily. Because I felt it was necessary to have the cooperation of all parties and floor groups, I held talks with the heads of parties and explained to them the basic outline adopted by the party on 28 December of last year, if my memory is correct. I have been told that the party had held talks with all other parties on many occasions at the Ad Hoc Committee on Revisions to the Public Office Election Law. I have expressed to the party my wish to finish the formulation of an outline of the bill sometime during May, if possible. Yesterday I attended a joint general meeting of the Election System Research Council and the Political Reform Promotion Headquarters. There I heard their views, stated my opinion and made a strong request that they finish working out an outline of the bill during the month of May. I believe that the party, keeping that in mind, is continuing this work, along with various other tasks which I just mentioned. As you said, I stated here that, as far as this issue is concerned, I must address it with an indomitable determination, and it is a mission assigned to the party by the times. The party's Basic Outline of Political Reform was already adopted when I was chosen party president. I supported it and I took part in the process of formulating it as one of the executive members. Therefore, I have a strong desire that it be accomplished by all means. Yesterday various people expressed a variety of views, or showed opposition or concern. So, I gave them frank answers and issued instructions to finish formulating an outline this month, after holding debates.

[Reporter] Then, it means that the work of drawing up a bill will be prompted. Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Oshima spoke about this yesterday, but can you give us an idea about when the bill can be completed—specifically, before the London summit, or before the Diet session opens in autumn?

[Kaifu] I would like to have the party's outline formulated in May and then have it referred to the government review committee. At present, there exists a gap between a recommendation prepared by the government review commitee and the basic guideline of the party. The party's outline, when completed, will be explained to the review committee so that an understanding of it can be achieved. Once that is done, I would like the Review Committee to immediately begin taking the next necessary steps. I would like this entire process to be completed as soon as possible so that the Diet can start its deliberation of it.

[Reporter] If that is the case, it will probably become necessary to call an extraordinary session of the Diet. What is your feeling with regard to the timing of such a session?

[Kaifu] Today, I would like to say only that it will be called as soon as possible. Now the party is earnestly discussing what the outline should be like. I have strongly asked them to complete the work before the end of May. Once that is done, the government can start to do its part. I hope the Diet session will open as soon as possible. The real question, however, should not be about when the session begins, but about what the bill contains. I would like to respond to the people's expectations by coming up with a bill that has the proper substance.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, there is also this problem—your term as party president expires in October. Because of this and other political reasons, unless you make clear when you intend to complete this, there are possibilities that the political situation will become fluid or that your leadership ability will be questioned. Even within the LDP, there are people who say this. What do you have to say regarding these political circumstances?

[Kaifu] This matter concerns revising the fundamental election system with an eye to the nation's next 100 years. This is about finally implementing the ideas of political reform conceived by the LDP two years ago. I wish you would not think about this as something that concerns only the Kaifu cabinet or the LDP. I would like to be allowed to finish this task. I am very well aware that my term is set by the party rules. I have said time and again that I am strongly resolved to carry out my mission in this regard.

[Reporter] Is there a possibility an extraordinary session will be called before autumn?

[Kaifu] It will be called as soon as possible...as soon as possible. The party's work of drafting an outline will be done before the end of May. When that is done, there will be some work to be done by the government through its review committee.

[Reporter] So it would be all right to think that this will not be put off to autumn. Right?

[Kaifu] I am hoping that it will be done as soon as possible.

[Reporter] People within the party, like Mr. Kanemaru or Mr. Takeshita, have made remarks expressing a cautious stand with regard to having an extraordinary Diet session. What is your view on such an atmosphere within the party?

[Kaifu] I have learned from news reports that there are various views. I heard many views at the joint meeting of government and party officials the day before yesterday and again at a joint committee meeting yesterday. But all agree that it is the mission given to the party by the new era, and that the mission must be fulfilled. It is very important that various views be summarized and an outline for the party drawn up. I am sure this is the number—233 times. There have been some 233 meetings with Diet members to sound out their views. In addition, people have been sent to local prefectures to hear views there. I have received reports that views of academic circles, journalists and economists have been solicited. And these various views, I believe, reflect general agreement that we must push on and carry out the reforms. Of course, there were some people, even in the joint committee session yesterday, who expressed concern. In order to ease such concern, it is necessary for the joint committee to form various subcommittees and to come up with ways to address the questions of application of democracy within the party, local party organizations, ways of electing successors, and so forth. I want this to be done before the end of May, and the outline to be completed. I am strongly asking for this, and I am sure that all people concerned are making efforts toward this end. I myself am participating in this work very actively, and will continue my efforts.

[Reporter] I think another major political issue is whether Japan should participate in UN peacekeeping operations. In this regard, there was an agreement among three parties while the Diet was in an extraordinary session last autumn. At the recent meeting of general secretaries and secretariat chiefs of the three parties—the LDP, Komeito, and Democratic Socialist Party—it was agreed that an interim plan should be prepared jointly by the LDP and the government. My first question—What is the prime minister's basic position as to the interim plan, including your thinking on whether the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] should be used in the operations? And the second question—Do you intend to call on the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] to join the three parties' agreement? I would like to have your answers to these two questions.

[Kaifu] The basic stance was made clear in the UN Peace Cooperation Bill, which met the misfortune of being killed in the Diet before deliberation of it was completed—even though I humbly accept the consequences. Since then, there has been an agreement among the three parties. On the basis of this agreement, the task given us now is to make efforts to draw up, as soon as possible, a bill so that Japan can make its contributions to the international community in a new way. The government already has a basic idea regarding UN peacekeeping operations, but this idea must be pursued on the premise that it will receive Diet approval. This basic idea has been conveyed to the LDP. I think the general secretaries and secretariat chiefs of the three parties discussed the idea when they met recently. Should it become clear that further progress can be made if the government draws up a plan, then the government will consult with the party. There are a couple of points that need to be resolved. We will have to clear them up and then come up with a draft plan. This is what I think. As far as the matter of the SDPJ is concerned, as was revealed several times at Diet committee sessions, they had a concept regarding a UN peace cooperation organization. Initially, there was a written draft embodying the concept which envisioned rendering logistical support to UN peacekeeping operations, or participating in armistice surveillance or election inspection activities. Since there were so many points in common with our ideas, we proposed holding talks on it together. But at that time, exchanges with them revealed that there was a basic problem with the stand of that party, as it questioned the constitutionality of the SDF itself. We called on the party to join the talks, but there was no response to the call. That was how I felt.

Now I think what we have to do is make something tangible of the agreement among the three parties—the LDP, the Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party. First, the government will have active discussions with the LDP, and any concrete things that come out of these talks will then be frankly discussed with Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party. I would like to hear their opinions regarding the government proposal.

[Reporter] What is the prime minister's target for completing the interim plan?

[Kaifu] That is also something I want to have done as soon as possible. I am not about to approach it in a leisurely manner, letting it pass summer and fall. I am urging that the work go faster.

[Reporter] From a diplomatic viewpoint, the London summit can be seen as a benchmark. Do you think this work should be completed before the summit?

[Kaifu] As I said, this will be done as soon as possible. The summit is due to be held in the middle of July. I want the government plan to be formulated as soon as possible. The government has its own basic idea on it. Detailed discussions will be held based on that.

[Reporter] A matter of greatest concern in connection with the proposed establishment of a new organization for peacekeeping operations, I think, is the handling of the SDF. The three-party agreement calls for exclusion of the SDF, but those in the LDP maintain that the SDF must be included in it. I believe the Defense Agency holds the same view. The opposition, particularly Komeito, insists that the SDF should be excluded. In view of this, I believe it will be very difficult to come up with an agreement. Do you have any specific idea of how to handle the SDF?

[Kaifu] Originally the government's idea was to have the SDF participate in the proposed Peace Cooperation Corps, but that bill was rejected. Under the three-party agreement, the framework is set so that the new organization should be separate from the SDF. Therefore, we must think about what will be possible within that framework. This is the biggest point to keep in mind, I think.

[Reporter] Do you have any good ideas?

[Kaifu, laughing] If you let the government have its say, the government drafted that bill last time, but it was rejected. I do not know how the three parties will interpret it, but the government will present its ideas. However, if the three parties have any good ideas, I hope they will express them under the agreed upon criteria and we will then try to seek agreement, starting from there.

[Reporter] Next, I would like to ask you about the Uruguay round, or the rice liberalization issue to Japan. The fast track [two previous words in English] session of the U.S. Congress is closing at the end of this month, and you have been clarifying your basic commitment not to liberalize rice imports. I wonder if there has been any change in that basic view. It appears that an agreement at the Uruguay round on the whole absolutely must be reached within this year. What do you see as the prospects for the Uruguay Round on the whole?

[Kaifu] Regarding the Uruguay Round as a whole, the multilateral free trade negotiations must be successful. Japan has grown, to date, precisely under this free, stable world trade order. Therefore, it is a cardinal principle that Japan must help bring it to success. In the Uruguay Round debates on 15 items, Japan has made efforts to the extent possible and even made an offer to lower tariffs on tropical products. I think the agricultural sector is probably an area of global concern now. Regarding the agricultural sector, I have instructed the pertinent Cabinet members.... [changes thought] Japan's principled position should not be changed as you just mentioned.

Japan is the biggest food importer in the world. Of late, the calorie-based self-sufficiency rate has shown a downward tendency. It has at last dropped to as low as 48 percent. Japan's calorie-based self-sufficienty rate is not as high as that of the United States, which exceeds 120 percent. Japan imports more than $8 billion worth of agricultural products from the United States. That is Japan's position. In addition, the EC has so-called variable surcharges and an export subsidies system. These are problems that differ from Japan's. Therefore, the Uruguay Round will face such big issues as what to do with the Japanese agricultural markets as much as how to resolve the waiver problem of the United States or what to do with the EC's variable surcharges and subsidies. From the basic position that Japan is a food importer and the fact that Japan has the lowest self-sufficiency rate among the member nations, the people are very worried about food security. Then, what should be done in order to obtain a common understanding and perception at the Uruguay Round about these complex and difficult problems the respective member countries face? My basic idea is to strive to explain our position thoroughly without compromising on principle. So, there is nothing particularly different from what I have been saying thus far.

[Reporter] Deliberations were held on the UN Peace Cooperation Bill at the extraordinary Diet session last autumn and on the dispatch of SDF transport planes and minesweepers at the last ordinary session. Do you have any plan to further deepen studies on the SDF's international cooperation?

[Kaifu] That is a good question. We thought about it and that is why we introduced the UN Peace Cooperation Bill. But we could not obtain understanding. Another thing is this: Of the opposition parties, two that believe international cooperation is by all means necessary took part in the three-party agreement. So, I think that we should consider, among these three parties, what would be a good way and good form to render cooperation. I thought that the situation at the time we introduced the UN Peace Cooperation Bill last year, when we found it imperative to engage in peacekeeping operations in the Gulf, and the situation after peace was restored in the Gulf, when our cooperation was called for in the clearance work, rehabilitation—the dispatch of minesweepers, for instance—were totally different qualitatively.

Something that is closing in upon us in concrete form at this very moment is the necessity of restoring peace in the Asia region. I mean the civil strife in Cambodia. Although it is not a war, the strife has been going on for nearly 20 years now. Were we not to help extinguish that burning coal in one way or another, we would not be feeling sorrow for the Cambodian people. From that position, we made appeals to the four Cambodian factions, and I myself made efforts to that end on various occasions. The efforts made by the French and Indonesian cochairmen were fruitful and a cease-fire agreement, effective 1 May, came into force for now. If that agreement is switched over to consent to the agreement of the P-5 [permanent five memebers of the UN Security Council], Cambodia thereafter will have to deal with various problems. Japan has introduced various initiatives, including one on the demilitarization issue. If agreement were to be reached on the document of the five members of the UN Security Council, I think the United Nations would find it necessary to take action with regard to armistice supervision, elections, administration and various other problems. When that time comes, therefore, I think it will be important to find out how far we can cooperate and how far we can ask the people of Japan to cooperate. In that sense, I am continuing my efforts in the hope of realizing cooperation at the earliest possible date, just as I did at the time of the earlier political reform and also during the peacekeeping operations. Therein lies the significance.

[Reporter] I will turn to the issue of electoral system reform. Mr. Prime Minister, you said ealier that you will implement procedures promptly after the party completes an outline. But this issue involves constituency apportionment, which bears on the position of each and every Diet member. I believe there is a strong voice in the party that maintains any serious debate will be impossible unless that issue is tabled. Now, it appears to be the view of the Political Reform Promotion Headquarters that you should entrust the apportionment issue to the Electoral System Deliberative Council and accept it intact. What are your thoughts about this?

[Kaifu] I intend to follow the opinion of the Political Reform Headquarters. This is expressly stated in the basic outline. When I received a package of recommentations from the Electoral System Deliberative Council, members of the joint general meeting of the party Electoral Reform Committee and Research Council said they would entrust a concrete constituency apportionment formula to the Electoral System Deliberative Council. Otherwise, if a party should take on that task or if a politician directly having an interest should take part in the apportionment work.... [changes thought] When the issue of increasing a seat each in eight densely populated electoral constituencies and decreasing a seat each in seven depopulated districts [hachizo nanagen] was discussed in 1986, I participated in it in my capacity as deputy secretary general. I remember that the debate on the hachizo nanagen issue alone was so complicated, as various arguments were raised. We must carry out drastic reform and narrow the gap among electoral districts to within a 1:2 ratio. This is the demand of the times. On the basis of census returns, it was said that there is an unconstitutional situation. Therefore, when we review the matter, taking all this into consideration, a fair conclusion should be drawn upon agreement by everyone. The conclusion that the matter should be entrusted to a third party, the Electoral System Deliberative Council, which has been deliberating the issue all this while, was properly stated in the party's outline, and it was adopted as a party resolution last year. Therefore, I think this formula is most appropriate. By making a decision on an outline of the bill, the apportionment work itself will be started. That is why I made a strong request yesterday that a decision on the outline be made by the end of May.

[Reporter] Another point. Just now there was a reference to the time the Diet passed a bill on the hachizo nanagen issue. Speaking about discussions on the electoral system reform, I think there has been an agreement that, at the least, the number of seats should be revised, since there is the possibility that the next house election may be ruled unconstitutional unless this is done. But it has been found that revising only the number of seats would create confusion. So the need for fundamental reform has arisen.

Recently, however, some people have questioned the reasoning that the number of seats cannot be readjusted as long as the fundamental reform is not implemented successfully. There are many in the party who think this is really a question of choosing one or the other—fundamental reform or revision of the number of seats only.

Will you be taking this point into consideration when drawing up the draft?

[Kaifu] That point has already been raised in a draft of the party, and has been put to discussions. Subcommittee Chairman Kato showed me a draft indicating the magnitude of the problem and giving figures on the number of districts that would be affected in case readjustments are made. But as I have said so many times, the political reform we want to carry out now is not only to remedy the proportional disparity of constituencies, but also to implement the things pledged by the party at the time of election campaigns—first, the issue of political ethics, then the issue of political funds, and so forth. In the course of discussing these issues, it has become evident that what is needed is basic reform of the existing system itself. Thus the lower house has come to review the possibility of adopting a small electoral system, and, though it still may be a tentative plan by party whips, a drastic idea came out of the upper house yesterday.

In addition, there is the need for reform of the party, the LDP, and reform of the Diet, which is so slow moving in the eyes of the people. The idea is that all these reforms should be lumped together. Discussions have been held based on this idea. Studies on reform of the party as well as of the Diet have already been made by the party, and a draft reform plan based on the studies has been prepared and submitted.

In fact, some actions have been taken—for instance, to promote functions of the party disciplinary committee by revising the party rules at the party convention last year, and to revise the party rules so that efficiency of the party Diet members can be enhanced. As such, there are some things that have already been done, but there are also things remaining to be done. One of the toughest is the issue of constituency reapportionment. In the course of resolving this issue from its basis, we will also need to solve the problem of revising the number of parliamentary seats so that we can remain clear of the possibility of violating the Constitution in the election. I think all these political reforms should be pursued as a package. And this policy is given in the guideline adopted by the party.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, you said the matter of constituency apportionment will be entrusted to the party Electoral System Council. The term for members of the existing Electoral System Council is due to expire at the end of June. Do you plan to complete the constituency apportionment before that happens?

[Kaifu] We are working on the basis of the knowledge that their term lasts until 27 June. I would like to have the party outline completed by the end of May. There are subsequent steps of work to be done, including what you just mentioned. We are striving while knowing all this.

[Reporter] There is on-going talk within the LDP to the effect former Prime Minister Nakasone and former Prime Minister Takeshita may be appointed supreme advisers. Do you plan to request them to accept the appointment? If you do, when do you intend to do so?

[Kaifu] It is not a matter that I can answer at this place now. At present, the party intends to carry out political reform properly.

[Reporter] There will be a party presidential election in the fall. Do you intend to run in the election?

[Kaifu] I am grappling with my assigned duty with all my power now in an effort to fulfill it.

[Reporter] Do you mean you are not thinking about it yet?

[Kaifu] I am not thinking of anything.

[Moderator] With this, we would like to close this news conference. Reporters, there are no further questions? Then we will close. Thank you.

Party Officials View Diet Session, Tasks

OW1305050491

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 12 May carries a one-hour live roundtable discussion entitled "Diet Debate: How To Tackle Future Political Tasks." Present at the roundtable discussions, moderated by NHK commentator Yamamoto, are Keizo Obuchi, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]; Tsuruo Yamaguchi, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ]; Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of Komeito; Kazuo Shii, chief secretary of the Japan Communist Party [JCP]; Takashi Yonezawa, secretary general of the Democratic Social Party [DSP]; and Misoji Sakamoto, chief cabinet secretary of the government.

After brief introductory remarks by moderator Yamamoto, discussion focusses on the recent 120th ordinary Diet session. Recalling the session, LDP's Obuchi rates the session as "very good," citing the passage of 90 percent of the bills submitted. Expressing his view on the latest Diet session, the SDPJ's Yamaguchi criticizes the passage of the defense budget during the session, stressing that "Japan alone has been increasing its defense budget despite international moves toward disarmament." Commenting on the achievements of the latest Diet session, the DSP's Yonezawa stresses his party's role in approving $9 billion in aid to the multinational forces. The JCP's Shii criticizes the latest Diet session as "trampling the spirit of the Constitution," citing the first overseas dispatch of the Self-Defense Force [SDF] and accuses Gorbachev's Diet speech of failing to indicate a forward-looking attitude toward the territorial issue, contending that "the territorial issue remains unresolved because of the Soviet policy of pursuing big country chauvnism since the Stalin era." Calling the latest Diet session a Gulf session, the DSP's Yonezawa stresses that "Japan must become a nation capable of making personnel contributions as well as financial ones to the international community." Asked by moderator Yamamoto to comment on the latest Diet session, Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto says that during the session, "there was growing awareness among the people that Japan should make financial and personnel contributions to the international community and cooperate not only economically, but politically with other nations" and thanks the DSP for cooperating with the government's decision to send minesweepers to the Persian Gulf.

Asked by moderator Yamamoto about the LDP-Komeito-DSP coalition during the latest Diet session, Komeito's Ichikawa stresses that "our party has joined the coalition after making a policy judgement," citing Komeito's support for $9 billion in aid to the multinational forces. Expressing his view on the coalition, the DSP's Yonezawa says that "people sharing the same sense of values gather together."

Asked by moderator Yamamoto if there is any change in the party line, SDPJ's Yamaguchi denies the change in his party line and stresses that during the latest Diet session, "our party tried hard to cope with the Gulf war in line with the principles of the pacifist Constitution," citing his party's objection to the dispatch of SDF planes and support for the airlift of refugees.

Asked about the opposition's role and responsibility, the JCP's Shii criticizes the LDP-Komeito-DSP coalition and stresses that "the government attempts to cooperate militarily with other foreign nations and to break the framework of the Constitution under mounting pressure from the United States," adding that the opposition cannot play its proper role without taking issue with the government which is violating the Constitution and following what the United States says. He also stresses that the U.S.' fundamental strategy is to play the role of world policeman to intervene in various international disputes and warns that "Japan should not follow this dangerous course."

On the coalition, the LDP's Obuchi refutes remarks by the JCP's Shii and stresses that the government has decided to send the minesweepers and transportation planes based on the principles of the Constitution and thanks Komeito and the DSP for their support for approving the $9 billion Gulf aid during the latest Diet session, expressing hope for their continued support in the future. Defending the government's decisions to provide $9 billion in aid to the multinational forces and to send minesweepers to the Gulf, Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto notes that the government won public support for them.

Asked by moderator Yamamoto to comment on remarks by the LDP's Obuchi, the SDPJ's Yamaguchi criticizes the government's decision to send the minesweepers as "absolutely intolerable" and says that during the latest Diet session, his party opposed the financial aid of $9 billion to the multinational forces from the standpoint of the pacifist Constitution. Commenting on remarks by Mr. Sakamoto, Komeito's Ichikawa says that the dispatch of the minesweepers to the Persian Gulf has raised many issues and the JCP's Shiii calls the dispatch of the minesweepers "intolerable" from the spirit of the SDF Law.

On the dispatch of the minesweepers, the SDPJ's Yamaguchi opposes their dispatch and stresses that Japan should rather participate in reparing environmental damage.

Asked by moderator Yamamoto to comment on the future handling of the peacekeeping operation [PKO], Komeito's Ichikawa says that his party is against allowing the SDF to participate in the PKO and blames the LDP and the goverment for failing to move quickly to that end. Asked by moderator Yamamoto if there are any differences between the LDP and the government over the PKO, the LDP's Obuchi denies that there are differences, but concedes the existence of a variety of views within the LDP on the PKO. Regarding the PKO, the SDPJ's Yamaguchi, after saying that "his party supports the PKO in principle," stresses the need to "organize the PKO separately from the SDF," adding that his party has almost completed a draft bill on UN peacekeeping activities. On the PKO, the DSP's Yonezawa and Komeito's Ichikawa urge the LDP to initiate consultations with their parties after quickly drafting a bill on the PKO. Asked by commentator Yamamoto to comment on the PKO, the JCP's Shii stresses that "the PKO should not participate in any military activities in line with the principles of the Constitution" and warns that "any legislation for the PKO could lead to the overseas dispatch of the SDF."

Turning to political reform, moderator Yamamoto asks Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto to comment, saying it has been said that "the prime minister needs to display his leadership." In reply, Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto says that "the prime minister has stated that he would work on the issue of political reform with unwavering resolve."

Government 'Still Considering' SDF Role

OW1305051491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0413 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 13, KYODO—The government is still considering using the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) for United Nations peacekeeping operations and ceasefire monitoring, a government source indicated Monday.

The same source, however, indicated the government is finding it difficult to implement the plan because of objections from a women's lobby within the opposition party Komeito.

The source said the government is frustrated by opposition which still does not approve even international contribution efforts not accompanied by the use of force.

The latest snag in the government's campaign to make a high- profile contribution to peace comes in the wake of the Persian Gulf war. Japan sent no troops to the Gulf during the war because its war-denouncing Constitution bans the country from using force to resolve international disputes.

Instead, Japan pledged 11 billion dollars to assist allied efforts to drive Iraqi troops from Kuwait and 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to Jordan, Turkey, and Egypt.

The snag also comes shortly before a bipartisan group of parliamentarians goes overseas early next month to study the issue.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on April 25 told an inaugural meeting of a government advisory panel on Japan's international contributions that Japan should contribute with personnel and not just money.

The government established the panel in reaction to foreign criticism that Japan did nothing except contribute money during the Gulf crisis.

The government is keen to keep the debate on the issue in the public eye even though the Diet is not now in session.

On Friday, Kaifu again said he hoped the governing Liberal Democratic Party, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party will agree on a proposal to create a new peacekeeping organization separate from the SDF.

The government source's remarks Monday, however, indicate the government may have gone further than that proposal in its current thinking.

Intra-Party Team To Survey Peacekeeping Efforts

OW1305043591 Tokyo NHK General Telvision Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] The House of Representatives has decided to send a supraparty team to the United Nations and other nations in mid-June to survey how other nations are cooperating with the peacekeeping operations [PKO] of the United Nations and how the United Nations is operating the PKO. Regarding the question of Japan's cooperation with the PKO, secretaries general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], Komeito, and the Democratic Social Party [DSP] held a meeting on 7 May to confirm that they would continue consultations on creating a new organization seperately from the Self-Defense Forces. As a result of subsequent meetings to discuss Japan's cooperation with the PKO, the three parties agreed to send a supraparty survey team abroad comprised of parliamentarians of the LDP, Komeito, DSP, and Social Democratic Party of Japan as part of supraparty economic and political survey teams, which have thus far been sent abroad shortly after the closing of ordinary Diet sessions.

The supraparty survey team will leave Japan in early June. The team will visit the United Nations in New York and the UN peacekeeping force waiting for duty calls in Canada and Sweden. After surveying the actual situation of other nations' cooperation with the PKO, the team will report survey results to the House of Representatives.

The Japan Communist Party has expressed its intention to join the team, and this will be discussed by the rest of political parties.

North Korea

Activities Related to Death of Ho Tam Reported

11 May Obituary Made Public

SK1205073591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2235 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—The obituary of Comrade Ho Tam was made public on May 11 by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The obituary reads in part:

Comrade Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, died from a long illness to our regret at the age of 62 at 20:20 on May 11, 1991.

Comrade Ho Tam was a faithful son of our party and people who devoted his all to the struggle for the victory of the revolutionary cause of chuche upholding the guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Born in a worker's family he was forced to do a bitter juvenile labour before liberation. After liberation he grew up to be a talented official under the care of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and devotedly struggled for the strengthening and development of our party and the prosperity of the country.

Comrade Ho Tam who began working at an important post of the revolution from the days when the socialist revolution and socialist construction were stepped up on a full scale in our country resolutely struggled through his life to thoroughly defend and implement the revolutionary lines and policies put forward by our party, upholding them with a whole heart.

He made energetic endeavours to carry through the independent foreign policy of our party, holding important posts in the field of foreign affairs for many years, and thus made a great contribution to raising the international prestige of our party and state and strengthening the world solidarity for our revolution.

Working at a responsible post of the party Central Committee at a time when the cause of modelling the whole of society on the chuche idea came to the fore, Comrade Ho Tam strove hard to lay a solid organisational and ideological foundation of the party and further increase its militancy. He energetically worked to reunify the divided country at an early date upholding our party's policy of national reunification.

Comrade Ho Tam, equipped with the chuche idea of our party and having a steadfast revolutionary outlook on the leader, remained boundlesly faithful to the party and the leader to the last moment of his life and devoted his all to the country and people.

The death of Comrade Ho Tam is a grievous loss to our party and people.

The distinguished service made by him in the struggle for the party and the revolution, the country and the people will remain long in the hearts of our people.

Brief Biography of Ho Tam

SK1105234191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2242 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—Comrade Ho Tam was born in a worker's family in Hawangsipri, Seoul City, Kyonggi Province, on March 6, 1929.

After liberation Comrade Ho Tam worked at important posts of the party and state for many years thanks to the deep political trust and profound care of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Comrade Ho Tam worked from August 1955 as instructor and section chief of the party Central Committee, and from 1961 as vice-minister, first vice-minister and minister of foreign affairs, and from 1972 he held the post of vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister.

He was elected member of the party Central Committee at the 5th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] held in November 1970 and at the 6th Congress of the WPK in October 1980 and alternate member of the Political Committee of the party Central Committee at the 13th plenary meeting of the fifth party Central Committee and member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee at the 8th plenary meeting of the sixth party Central Committee, and worked as secretary of the party Central Committee from December 1983.

He was elected deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from the fifth SPA in December 1972 to the ninth SPA and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the SPA at the first session of the ninth SPA in May 1990.

Comrade Ho Tam remained intensely loyal to the party and the leader till the last moment of his life.

Kim Il-song Visit Reported

SK1105233091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2226 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on May 6 visited the hospital where Comrade Ho Tam, member of the Politial Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the

Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, was receiving treatment for his long illness, and inquired after his health.

President Kim Il-song sat by the sick bed of Comrade Ho Tam who has devotedly struggled for the strengthening and development of our party and the prosperity and development of the country, and gave him words of consolation, taking his serious illness close to heart.

Comrade Ho Tam expressed deep thanks to President Kim Il-song for visiting him at the hospital and inquiring after his health.

Viewing, Funeral Service Announced

SK1205013091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] The state funeral committee announcement: The bier of the late Comrade Ho Tam is placed in Sojang Village, Potonggang District, Pyongyang City.

Condolers who want to express their condolence in memory of the late Ho Tam can come from 12 through 13 May.

Funeral service will be held at 1000 on 13 May.

Funeral Committee Members Reported

SK1205005091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] (?Decision) of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK Central People's Committee, and the DPRK Administration Council:

1. The funeral ceremony of the late Comrade Ho Tam will be held as a state funeral ceremony.

2. The State Funeral Committee of the late Comrade Ho Tam is composed as follows:

Comrade Kim Chong-il, Comrade O Chin-u, Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, Comrade Yi Chong-ok, Comrade Pak Song-chol, Comrade Kim Yong-nam, Comrade Choe Kwang, Comrade Kye Ung-tae, Comrade Chon Pyong-ho, Comrade Han Song-yong, Comrade Kang Song-san, Comrade So Yun-sok, Comrade So Chol, Comrade Hyun Mu-kwang, Comrade Choe Tae-pok, Comrade Choe Yong-nim, Comrade Hong Song-nam, Comrade Hong Si-hak, Comrade Kim Chol-man, Comrade Kim Pok-sin, Comrade Kang Hui-won, Comrade Kim Chung-nin, Comrade Pak Nam-ki, Comrade So Kwan-hui, Comrade Yun Ki-pok, Comrade Kim Yong-sun, Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, Comrade Kim Yun-hyok, Comrade Kim Hwan, Comrade Kim Chang-chu, Comrade Kim Tal-hyon, Comrade Chang Chol, Comrade Yang Hyong-sop, Comrade Yi Kye-paek, Comrade Chong Sin-hyok, Comrade Kim Ki-nam, Comrade Kim Yong-chae, Comrade Kim Pong-chu, Comrade Kim Kyong-hui; Comrade Yi Ha-il; Comrade (Kim Hui-son), Comrade Yi Chang-son, Comrade O Kuk-yol, Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong, Comrade Kang Sok-sung, Comrade No Myong-kun, Comrade Yi Mong-ho, Comrade (Choe Chang-ik), Comrade Chong Chun-ki, Comrade Choe Mun-son, Comrade Won Tong-ku, Comrade Choe Yong-hae, Comrade Pak Su-tong, Comrade Kim Pyong-yul, Comrade Kim Chol-myong, Comrade Chang Song-taek, Comrade Choe Pong- man, Comrade Kang Sok-chu, Comrade Kim Yong-ho, Comrade Han Si-hae, Comrade Choe Hyon-tok, Comrade Yo Pong-ku, Comrade Hwang Pyong-tae, Comrade Ko Ki-chun, Comrade Yi Tong-chol, Comrade U Chong-hak, Comrade Yi Chun-sik, Comrade Yi Ki-hwa, Comrade Choe Chang-hon, Comrade Yi Sang-tae, Comrade (Chong Chon-nam), Comrade Cho Pok-kil, and Comrade Yu Sang-chik.

Kim Chong-il Visits Funeral Bier

SK1105233691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2229 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Saturday visited the bier of Comrade Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, and expressed deep condolences.

Present on the occasion were Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Administration Council; Comrades Kim Chung-nin and Kim Yong-sun, members and secretaries of the WPK Central Committee; and directors of departments of the WPK Central Committee.

Ho Chong-man, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), was on hand.

Comrade Kim Chong-il together with senior officials of the party and state observed a moment's silence in memory of the deceased who remained boundlessly faithful to the party and the leader and devoted his all to the struggle for the country and people till the last moment of his life.

Comrade Kim Chong-il expressed deep condolences to the bereft family and warmly consoled them.

Returning Table Tennis Players Welcomed 12 May

SK1205115291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1119 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—The North side's paddlers of the unified Korea team arrived here today amid warm welcome of citizens after participating in the 41st World Table Tennis championships.

They were met by Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-chairman of the committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland; Chang Chol, vice-premier and minister of culture and art; Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the State Sports Commission and chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee; and other officials concerned.

On the long route from the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium to the May Day Stadium through the Kumnung Tunnel, tens of thousands of working people and sportsmen in the city enthusiastically welcomed the paddlers who are returning home after demonstrating worldwide the honor of the Korean nation and the will of the fellow countrymen for reunification.

A Pyongyang mass meeting welcoming them took place at the May Day Stadium with large attendance.

Present at the meeting were Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK and vice-president of the DPRK, and officials concerned.

When the table tennis players appeared in the stadium, 150,000 peope warmly welcomed them, waving flags of the unified Korea team and bunches of flowers.

The title of people's sportswoman was conferred on Yi Pun-hui and Yu Sun-pok who greatly contributed to adding lustre to the honor of the nation.

In his welcoming address, Chang Chol, on behalf of the Pyongyang citizens and the whole nation, warmly welcomed our reliable paddlers who defeated world rivals and achieved signal success. The appearance of the unified table tennis team, the first of its kind in the history of national division spanning nearly half a century, was a significant event which powerfully demonstrated worldwide that the fellow countrymen in the north and the south are the brothers of the same blood and our country is one, and a picture that encouraged the entire fellow countrymen with hope and confidence in the future of unified Korea, he stressed:

Availing myself of this opportunity, I, on behalf of the DPRK Government, express deep thanks to the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and 700,000 Koreans in Japan who formed a joint welcome committee and gave material and moral support to the unified team, he said, and added:

The birth of a unified team, symbolic of "one unified country", and its brilliant achievements are a precious fruition of our patient efforts with all sincerity for the formation of a unified team for the past three decades. It is a shining victory of the line of collaboration and reunification which our party and the DPRK Government have consistently maintained.

The unified North-South table tennis team clearly proved that the difference in ideology and system can never be an obstacle to the accomplishment of the national reunification cause and, if the North and the South are united, it is quite possible to build one unified country through confederacy, he stressed:

In his reply address, Kim Hyong-chin who was leading the unified Korea team said: We could give a good account of ourselves in matches in high spirit as the trust and love shown by the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave us strength, wisdom and passion. We will consolidate and develop the achievements made in the formation of the unified team and in the championships so as to expand collaboration and joint activities between the North and the South in sports field and further increase the nation's spirit for reunification, thus positively contributing to the accomplishment of the cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Speaking next, Yu Sun-pok said: I, deeply aware of being a revolutionary soldier who has received particular love and solicitude from the party, will continue uplifting the honor of the homeland of chuche by thoroughly implementing the party's chuche-based sports policy.

Letter Hails South's Chondaehyop Organization

SK1105084091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0900 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, had asked the South side to deliver a letter of the chairman of the Korean Students Committee to the chairman of South Korea's National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], but since the South Korean authorities refused it, it was inevitable to send the letter over radio on 10 May.

The letter is as follows:

To Kim Chong-sik, chairman of Chondaehyop, and to the beloved fellow students of the South:

The Korean Students Committee and the youth and students of the northern half of the Republic enthusiastically congratulate the inauguration of the fifth-term Chondaehyop and also send warm fraternal greetings to all the fellow students who are devoting their youths in the road toward the patriotic reunification.

When the fascist dictatorship smashed democracy by going against the trend of history and when the splittist nation-selling forces were pursuing the nation's perpetual division, Chondaehyop took decisive actions to once again inaugurate its term which was carried out when the youth and students of the South were welcoming the spring of struggle. This is a grave declaration to drive out outside forces, restore the deprived national independence, put an end to the fascist dictatorship, and to usher in a new era of democracy.

This is also an expression of the unwavering faith of the youth and students of the South who are trying to be standard bearers and vanguards in the road toward the patriotic reunification, thus bringing an end to the tragedy of national division which has been continuing for over half a century and to vigorously build a fatherland.

The rightful determination of the South Korean youth and students who have vigorously launched into the great reunification march of the nineties is currently stirring up the minds of the people endlessly, thus rousing new faith and courage.

All the youth and students of the northern half of the Republic must deeply be aware of the lofty responsibility of the youth and students of the new era who are to undertake the future of the country and nation, and once again send enthusiastic congratulations and militant greetings to the fellow students of Chondaehyop who have further highly upheld the banner of the sacred struggle.

When looking back at the past, from the first day Chondaehyop displayed its first stance of symbolizing the struggle and unity among the South Korean youth and students. Chondaehyop kicked away all kinds of injustice and violence, and on the road of struggle until today, the proud feat of the courageous fighters in the road for justice and patriotism has been magnificently engraved.

The appearance of the youth and students of the South who pushed their way through the bayonets that were pointed at them with the immortal courage in the streets of resistance where the smoke of tear gas covered the streets, was a grand picture which vividly showed the firm faith and indomitable will of achieving national independence which is even more precious than life; of achieving reunification which is the long-awaited desire of the nation; and of devoting the youth for the patriotic road.

During the unforgettable days of 10 June and 15 August when the students of the North and South were mutually shouting, "Let's go to the North," "Come to the South," and "Let's meet at Panmunjom," and were going to the site of the North-South student talks, we were able to read the warm patriotic innermost feelings of the fellow students of the North and South who were trying to achieve ahead of schedule the nation's reunification by rupturing the barrier of division and achieving national harmony and unity.

Especially, Chondaehyop dispatched fellow student Yim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification," to the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students as its delegate and issued a joint declaration which represented the unshakable will of the students in the North and the South to build a reunified fatherland and thereby demonstrated our nation's desire for reunification to the whole world and further inspired the fervor for reunification among the fellow countrymen in the North, the South, and overseas.

Truly the brilliant feats which the South Korean youth and students accumulated on the road toward the patriotic reunification will never be forgotten by history and the nation.

Dear fellow students in the South, the youth and students in the North and the South are the vanguard fighters for the reunification movement who pledged to dedicate their youth and even their lives without hesitation, if necessary, to the patriotic road of reunification.

The groaning of divided fellow countrymen strikes our hearts, and Mt. Paektu and Mt. Halla are calling us. How can we remain merely satisfied with the past struggle and how can we delay our advance on the road of reunification even a moment?

At a time when our youth and students in the North and the South are striving to unite their intentions and strength, the South Korean ruling bunch, which is seeking the nation's division, arrested and imprisoned Yim Chong-sok and Song Kap-sok, former Chondaehyop's chairmen who carried out just acts for the nation and the people, Yim Su-kyong, the flower of reunification, and other patriotic students and reunification and democratic figures. The South Korean ruling bunch murdered a demonstrating student in broad daylight by inflicting collective violence on him and is unhesitatingly committing brutal and merciless violence.

Furthermore, the bellicose elements, who are relying on outside forces, are running amok with flunkeyist beggar diplomacy in an attempt to legalize the nation's division and with exercise of adventurous northward war of aggression to attack the fellow countrymen, ignoring the people's voice demanding peace. They are scheming to drive all the people into the whirlpool of thermonuclear war by committing even a surprise attack on the nonexistent nuclear facilities in the North.

Today's realities ardently demand that all the passionate students in the North and the South unanimously rise in the struggle to smash the bellicose separatists' adventurous new war provocation maneuvers and two Koreas plot and take a decisive step for opening a new phase for peace and reunification.

We should also defend peace of the nation through struggle. We should realize a historic meeting between the students in the North and the South who are looking forward to seeing each other, and should hold joint festivals which will contribute to the unity of the people and to the peaceful reunification of the nation.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we express our ardent agreement with Chondaehyop's 8 May proposal for holding a grand reunification festival on 15 August by youth and students in the North, the South and overseas. We appeal to you to jointly struggle to the end to realize this festival by all means.

Victory lies in our struggle. We firmly believe that the fellow students in the South, who are firmly united with the fifth-term Chondaehyop as iron-clad ranks, will more highly uphold the banner of Chondaehyop, in which the soul of their senior students and patriots dwell, and will continuously march on the road of struggle.

All the youth and students in the northern half of the Republic will always breathe together with the fighting South Korean youth and students and will advance by keeping step with them.

Fellow students of Chondaehyop, let us achieve our desire through struggle and continue our march until we gain victory by the struggle.

May victory and glory lie ahead on the road which the fifth-term Chondaehyop will advance!

Choe Hyon-tok, Chairman of the Korean Student Committee

9 May 1991, Pyongyang

Memorial Service Held for South Student

SK1305130191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—A memorial service of Pyongyang youth and students for student Kang Kyong-tae of South Korean Myongji University who was murdered by the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u fascist rulers took place on May 13.

In his memorial address, Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee, pointed out that the death of Kang Kyong-tae was a direct outcome of the shocking violence and military fascist rule of the present "regime of the 6th Republic" which regards the suppression of people as its mode of existence.

He noted that South Korean students and people of all strata are turning out in resistance with the determination to revenge a thousand fold upon the No Tae-u group of rulers for the death of Kang Kyong-tae and are committing self-immolations, striking terror into the hearts of the fascist murderers.

When all the fellow countrymen are denouncing and rejecting the murderous "regime", No Tae-u, the boss of the murderers, while expressing "regret", issue orders to "more severely deal with demonstrations" and is recklessly driving out the white bone group [plain clothes combat police unit] and combat police to their suppression, Choe Hyon-tok said, adding: The criminal acts of the No Tae-u ruling group clearly show that it is a gang of human butchers who dwarf the preceding dictators.

If the South Korean students and people want to enjoy genuine democracy and freedom, they must overthrow the No Tae-u "regime" and put an end to the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists who back it.

At the memorial service, students of Chang Chol-ku University and Kim Il-song University delivered mourning addresses.

Then, a mourning poem and a letter of condolence to Kang Kyong-tae's parents and to the teachers and students of Myongji University were read.

The letter points out that the death of martyr Kang Kyong-tae was a spark which kindled the torch of a new resistance across South Korea.

It also expresses the expectation that the teachers and students of Myongji University will certainly overthrow No Tae-u's murderous "regime" through their persistent and undaunted struggle and thus satisfy the grudge of the martyr without fail.

South's 'Intolerable Insult' to 'Patriots' Noted

SK1305114291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 13 May 91

["Shameless Utterances of Murderers"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet chief prosecutor said the self-immolation of Kim Yong-kyun of Andong National College, Chon Se-yong of Kyongwon University, social affairs department director of the Coaltion for National Democratic Movememt (Chonminnyon) Kim Ki-sol and other young people was possibly caused by "behind-the-scene forces" and "an investigation will be made into these forces".

This is an intolerable insult to the hot-blooded youths and students who shed blood as patriots to become sparks in restoring the dignity and sovereignty of the nation trampled down by the U.S. imperialist aggressors, dispelling the darkness in the land under the reign of the No Tae-u ruling group and bringing the dawn of independence, democracy and reunification, says a NODONG SINMUN analyst today, and continues:

The successive death of passionate youths steadfast in patriotism and daring in justice is an expression of wrath and protest against No's military fascist dictatorship and a manifestation of their undaunted will and determination to give rise to a storm of independence, democracy and reunification more precious than their lives.

The No ruling group schemes to dampen the people's denunciation, curse and resistance against it by attributing their self-immolation to the "backstage forces". It is a premeditated move to stretch out crooked hands of suppression to Chonminnyon and other dissident organizations and further expand the scope of suppression under the pretext of "investigation into the backstage forces".

The No ruling group is desperately trying to save the crisis of its rule which is getting ever more serious and prolong its miserable days. But it will result only in precipitating its miserable doom.

The youth and students and other people of South Korea will take a thousand-fold revenge for the blood shed by youths and students who devoted their precious youth to independence, democracy and reunification and bring the No military fascist clique, a group of butchers, to a stern judgement by history.

Wolfowitz' Remarks on Nuclear Inspection Viewed

SK1305092391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0024 GMT 13 May 91

[NODONG SINMUN 13 May commentary: "Coercive Remarks on Nuclear Threat by the Aggressors"]

[Text] It has been reported that U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Wolfowitz groundlessly slandered and defamed our Republic during a discussion in Tokyo on 10 May. He said that North Korea's moves are the most serious threat in the Asian-Pacific region. He also said, carelessly, that we were carrying out nuclear development. This is not true. This is also an unreasonable act reversing black and white.

The false statement by Wolfowitz is part of a cunning trick designed to make us, who have no nuclear weapons, the focus of public attention by describing us as one who commits violations, and to conceal their maneuvers to expand nuclear armaments and to provoke a nuclear war. This only shows the U.S. imperialists' brigandish nature.

Our position on nuclear weapons is that we do not feel that it is necessary to possess such weapons of mass murder. Resolutely opposing the test, production, storage, and use of nuclear weapons and abolishing all the nuclear weapons is our Republic's consistent demand. Based upon this position, we have declared many times that we have no intention or capability to develop nuclear weapons. We also advanced a proposal to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and have made every effort to realize this proposal.

Our Republic, the signatory of the Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], is ready to sign the nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency. However, we have not been able to sign this agreement because the United States has neither legally guaranteed nuclear safety nor taken practical measures to remove nuclear threats. In violation of the NPT, the United States has systematically increased the danger of nuclear war.

The U.S. imperialists, who have turned South Korea into the largest nuclear weapons storage facility in the Far East and into the front line region of antisocialist strategies, has conducted the Team Spirit exercise, a nuclear war exercise designed to invade the North. This year, too, it is fervently conducting an exercise for northward invasion in the skies over South Korea after mobilizing hundreds of airplanes, including nuclear attack planes, almost daily for months.

The fierce actual war exercise which the U.S. imperialists are conducting day and night in South Korea, where approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons and ultramodern war devices are concentrated, is a very dangerous adventure like a fire play on top of a time bomb. If sparks of war shoot up in South Korea, neither the Korean peninsula nor Asia or the world in general will be safe. As reality shows, the most serious danger of war in the Asian-Pacific region is being created in South Korea, and this is caused by the U.S. occupation of South Korea and its policy of war.

It is the United States that has created the danger of war. Trying to pass the blame for the danger of war to someone else even though it has created the danger of war is the chronic habit of the U.S. imperialists, the most shameless and arrogant aggressors.

The U.S. ruling circles have loudly talked about our nonexistent nuclear facilities. They have done so mainly to avoid withdrawing U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Today, when the nuclear arms reduction, detente, and the removal of foreign troops have become the trend of the times, the voices of the world's people who demand that the arms reduction be achieved in the Asian-Pacific region and that, in particular, U.S. troops and nuclear weapons be withdrawn from South Korea are growing daily. The United States, which can no longer turn a blind ear to this demand, has made an issue of nuclear inspection in our Republic, thus promoting tension. Using this inspection as an excuse, it is trying to continuously station U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea and to carry out its aggressive strategies toward the Asian-Pacific region. Wolfowitz appeared in Tokyo and groundlessly talked about our Republic's nuclear development. We can easily know that he did so to build an artificial obstacle to the DPRK-Japanese talks for the normalization of diplomatic relations and put a brake on the negotiations, a cunning scheme.

We have no nuclear weapons and are constantly under nuclear threats. However, the United States makes it its business to spread falsehoods, while talking about nuclear development. This is a threat and blackmail by the aggressors who have an intense ambition for nuclear war. Instead of adhering to falsehoods and nuclear war maneuvers that threaten peace, the United States must leave South Korea along with its nuclear weapons and troops and take its interfering hands off Korea.

Report on 9 May Military Exercises in South

*SK1105050691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0441 GMT 11 May 91*

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—The aerial joint war exercises staged by the U.S. Pacific Airforce Command in the skies above Oeyon Island, Wonju, Pyongchang, Kunwi and Chongju for long hours on May 9 involved formations of nuclear-capable F-16 fighter-bombers from Pacific bases and F-16 and other fighter-bombers, assault planes, observation planes and reconnaissance planes of the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, more than 200 in all, according to military sources.

In separate action that day the U.S. Pacific Naval Command staged surprise strike exercises on the objects in the area similar to the northern half of Korea with the mobilisation of several formations of assault planes and pursuit-assault planes in the sky above South Korea.

On the same day the South Korean puppets incited war fever, engaging themselves in ground attack exercises against the North under the cover of F-16s and A-37s in Pochon, Hwachon and Tongduchon areas with the mobilisation of huge ground forces.

That day they brought formations of transport planes carrying "commandoes" to the sky above Songnam area and let them stage parachuting exercises aimed at infiltrating into the depths of the northern half of Korea.

The military planes mobilised in the aerial war exercises in the sky above South Korea on May 9 totalled more than 580.

Foreign Military Leaders Greet O Chin-u

*SK0905051591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0412 GMT 9 May 91*

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Messages of greetings came to Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army [KPA] O Chin-u, minister of people's armed forces, on the 59th founding anniversary of the KPA from Col. Gen. Qin Jiwei, state councillor and minister of national defence of the People's Republic of China; Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, minister of defence of the USSR; Gen. Raul Castro Ruz, minister of revolutionary armed forces of the Republic of Cuba; Gen. Le Duc Anh, minister of national defence of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; Gen. Khamtai Siphandon, minister of defence of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Gen. Veljko Kadijevic, federal secretary for national defence of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; Gen. Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, minister of national defence of the Republic of Afghanistan; Lieut. Gen. Shagaliyn Jadambaa, minister of defence of the Mongolian People's Republic; Col. Gen. Victor Stanculescu, minister of national defence of Romania; and Gen. Alberto Joaquim Chipande, minister of national defence of the Republic of Mozamique.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the peoples and armies of Korea and afore-said countries will consolidate and develop day by day, the messages wish the KPA soldiers success in their efforts to increase the defence capacity of the country.

O Chin-u sent reply messages to them.

Kim Tal-hyon Attends Soviet Embassy Function

SK1005051991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—A reception was given at the Soviet Embassy here on May 9 on the 46th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the great patriotic war.

Invited to the reception were Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon, Chon Mun-sop and other officials concerned.

Present there were Soviet Ambassador to Korea Aleksandr Kapto and his embassy officials.

Speeches were exchanged at the reception.

Inherited 'Revolutionary Traditions' Viewed

SK1305112691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a signed article Sunday said that it is unshakable will of our people to carry the cause of socialism to accomplishment under the leadership of our party by successfully inheriting the revolutionary traditions.

The article entitled "It Is Sure Guarantee for the Victorious Advance of Socialism To Brilliantly Inherit the Revolutionary Traditions" says:

One of the secrets of our revolution's unflinching advance along the road of chuche through all hardships and trials lies in successfully carrying forward the revolutionary traditions.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"It is only when the purity of the revolutionary traditions is preserved that our party and revolution can keep the lifeblood of chuche pure."

The cause of socialism is that of the leader and whether his cause is upheld or not depends on whether the revolutionary traditions are inherited successfully or not. The revolutionary traditions are the historical roots of the party and revolution and the blood veins ensuring their continuity down through generations. Only when the revolutionary traditions are carried forward with credit, can the cause of the leader be upheld and the cause of socialism is carried out with flying colours.

To brilliantly inherit the revolutionary traditions is a sure guarantee for the accomplishment of the socialist cause because it makes it possible to strengthen and develop the party to be the leader's forever, consistently maintain his ideology and strengthen the driving force of the revolution constantly.

The revolutionary traditions are inherited creditably in our country so as to steadily strengthen and develop the driving force of the revolution.

Basing itself on the inheritance and development of the revolutionary traditions, the driving force of our revolution has the deepest and strongest roots and has strengthened and developed steadily in any wind and the cause of socialism in our country is vigorousty advancing along the road of victory.

It is the truth proven by our revolutionary practice that the revolutionary traditions must be inherited creditably in order to accomplish the cause of socialism.

KCNA Review of 11 May Pyongyang Press

SK1105052791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries news that foreign publications reported the great leader President Kim Il-song's visit to a unit of the Korean People's Army and his speech at the opening session of the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference.

Congratulatory messages and letters came to President Kim Il-song from different countries and functions were held on his birthday, says the press.

The Indian magazine Social Look carried the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "On Further Developing Educational Work," says NODONG SINMUN.

Under the headline "Loyalty Down Through Generations" the daily carries a story about An Tal-su, honorary chairman of the management board of the Sowon Cooperative Farm, Pyoksong County, South Hwanghae Province, and his son An Min-chol, chairman of the board management who are under loving care and solicitude of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The daily runs an editorial titled "Let Us Give Fuller Scope to the Advantages of our Style Socialism."

MINJU CHOSON carries an editorial calling for concentrating efforts on the construction of the October 9 General Steel Works and an editorial under the title "Our People's Pride of Enjoying True Life of Socialism Under the Party's Leadership".

Econews of the press includes a report about rice transplanting in full swing.

They observe the day of railway workers.

Papers inform the readers that the Korean Government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok visited India, Chinese President Yang Shangkun met a delegation of the Central Public Prosecutor's Office of Korea, and the chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Japan and Shin Kanemaru, former Japanese deputy prime minister, respectively met a delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea.

The South side's team arrived in Pyongyang to participate in the match to select the players of the North-South unified soccer team and the DPRK Football Association arranged a dinner for the South side's team, says the press.

Appearing in the press is a letter sent by Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee, to Kim Chong-sik, chairman of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea, in congratulation of the inauguration of the fifth-term Chondaehyop.

NODONG SINMUN reports that Kim Hwi-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon Provincial District Committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party", visited the Sinchon Museum.

In a commentary, the daily stresses that the struggle of South Korean students and people protesting against the murder of a patriotic student is an inevitable product of the "security-oriented rule" and repressive politics of No Tae-u's murderous "regime".

The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) held a memorial service to bid its last farewell to the late Kang Kyong-tae and others, says the daily.

South Korean news of the press includes reports that some 500,000 people staged demonstrations throughout South Korea on May 9, the "day of dissolution of the Democratic Liberal Party", about 200,000 workers of 458 trade unions under the National Council of Trade Unions went on strikes or slowdowns and woman student Kim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification", is unyieldingly fighting even behind the bars.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that Chinese President Yang Shangkun declared China would not change its road, a spokesman for the foreign ministry of China told a reporter that China hopes for the settlement of the U.N. membership issue of the North and the South of Korea through dialogue and negotiations and Radio Beijing aired news analyst's article saying that solidarity, friendship and cooperation between China and the DPRK would be further promoted.

The daily reports that the 46th anniversary of the victory in the Patriotic War was celebrated in the Soviet Union, the participants in the meeting of the Ho Chi Minh City party organisation of Vietnam reiterated their readiness to keep to the road of socialism and the Egyptian president referred to the issue of debts of African countries at an internatqonal meeting.

The daily runs an article saying that the European Community is stepping up its integrity against the economic infiltration of the United States and Japan.

KCNA Review of 13 May NODONG SINMUN

SK1305070291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0615 GMT 13 May 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today reports that Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent reply messages and returned greetings to foreign party and state leaders for their messages and congratulations to him on the occasion of his birthday.

Printed in the paper are a letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song from the participants of the Guyanese national seminar on the chuche idea, an account of the seminar and a report made there.

The paper carries a message of greetings to President Kim Il-song sent by Sierra Leonean President Joseph Saidu Momoh on his birthday.

President Kim Il-song received a message from Nicephore Soglo in reply to his message of greetings on his assumption of office as president of the Republic of Benin, says the paper.

The paper reports that President Kim Il-song sent a wreath to the bier of the late Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK and chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

Appearing in the paper is news that party and government cadres, the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the DPRK, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the SPA, the Administration Council, the commissions and ministries of the Administration Council, central organs, political parties, public organisations and foreign diplomatic envoys visited the bier of the late Ho Tam to express deep condolences.

The paper runs an article telling that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely led the functionaries of the Chongsan cooperative farm to take the lead in the whole country and words of the South Korean people expressing the ardent desire to go to Mt. Paektu where he was born.

The Sweden-Korea Friendship Association and the All India Indo-Korean Friendship Association published bulletins and celebration functions were held in different countries on the occasion of April 15, says the paper.

The paper informs the readers that the Peruvian acting president met the Korean ambassador and the Korean Government delegation led by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok left New Delhi after visiting India.

The paper carries news that rural villages are seething with transplanting of maize humus-pot seedlings and rice transplanting and the construction of the October 9 general steel works is being stepped up.

A Pyongyang mass rally was held to welcome the paddlers of the unified Korea team who participated in the 41st World Table Tennis Championships and they were warmly welcomed by citizens in the capital along the route and the second appraisal match to select the players of the North-South unified soccer team was held here, according to the paper.

Carried in the paper is news that a protocol on cooperation between the Workers' Party of Korea and the National Democratic Party of Egypt was signed in Cairo and an agreement on cooperation and a plan of cultural interchange between Korea and India were signed in New Delhi. Over 30,000 workers and students staged rallies and demonstrations in 13 cities throughout South Korea on May 11 in protest against the torture death of Pak Chang-su, chairman of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co. union, the director of the worker-peasant department of the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front issued a statement to the press on his death, the Korean Students Committee sent a letter to the "National Council of Student Representatives" of South Korea, expressing solidarity with the struggle of South Korean students and an "evening of poets" was held in Pyongyang to denounce the U.S. imperialists and the puppets for having murdered patriotic students.

The paper runs a commentary condemning the South Korean fascist clique for its ridiculous claim that some "background forces" were to blame for continued self-immolation among South Korean students.

It also comments on the utterances of the U.S. Defence Undersecretary Wolfowitz that the north is pushing ahead with "nuclear development".

It is reported in the paper that a spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry warned that the U.S. attempt to change the policy of China would not succeed and the Mexican president at an international meeting called for consolidating peace and developing international cooperation. It introduces economic briefs from Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Pakistan and Nepal.

The paper carries an article on voices of the world peace-loving people demanding the conversion of the Asia-Pacific into a nuclear-free, peace zone and articles exposing the U.S. imperialists' sinister plot to annex Palau and the Israeli wild ambition for territorial expansion.

South Korea

'High-Ranking' North Korean Official in PRC

SK1105000191 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2300 GMT 10 May 91

[Report by KBS Tokyo correspondent Chon Yo-ok]

[Text] The Japanese Government has decided to strongly persuade North Korea to agree to the simultaneous UN admission by North and South Korea when they meet to discuss the normalization of diplomatic relations during the third North Korean-Japanese talks to be held in Beijing on 20-21 May. A Japanese Government source has said that the Japanese Government would make it clear to North Korea that it would support the ROK's sole admission into the United Nations if North Korea rejects simultaneous admission. He also has said that the Japanese Government has made this decision on the judgment that North Korea's proposal for North-South UN admission as a single member is unrealistic and that support by the Soviet Union and China for the ROK's sole admission would not isolate North Korea. He also has said that North Korea's allegation that the simultaneous admission would hinder the reunification of North and South Korea is not convincing under circumstances in which both North and South Korea are members of various UN umbrella organizations.

Meantime, a Chinese source has said that a high-ranking North Korean official was visiting Beijing last night to block the ROK's sole admission. He also has said that it is very likely that this North Korean official is Kim Chong-il, secretary of North Korea's Workers Party. The Chinese Foreign Ministry has denied this. However, it was learned that yesterday numerous citizens saw two North Korean flag-flying limousines entering the State Guest House under the tight escort by the Beijing police. The hasty visit to China by this North Korean official appears to have been arranged to discuss the issue concerning the ROK's UN admission, to which Premier Li Peng avoided clearly referring during his recent visit to Pyongyang.

Diplomacy To Focus on Uruguay Round, EC, China

SK1005032491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0256 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Friday South Korea's diplomatic focus would remain on the Uruguay Round trade negotiations, expanding economic cooperation with the European Community and China, easing trade friction with the United States and reducing its chronic trade deficit with Japan.

"The Uruguay Round is led by the United States, EC and other advanced countries and includes opening of our vulnerable agriculture and service sectors... But if the negotiations fail, we should not forget, we will face a greater hardship," Yi told business leaders at a breakfast meeting sponsored by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

He said the government would cooperate with countries in a similar situation with Korea and would make utmost efforts to reflect national interests to the fullest and bring the Uruguay Round to a successful conclusion.

As for Korea-EC relations, Yi said, "the government will closely watch developments in the EC and its policies and will work out countermeasures, while striving to build a foundation for mutually beneficial, cooperative relations between the two sides through consultations with the EC Commission and EC members."

According to Korean customs data, EC exports to Korea rose 29.5 percent to 8.4 billion U.S. dollars in 1990, and EC imports from Korea increased 19.6 percent to 8.8 billion dollars.

Touching on Korea-U.S. trade relations, he said the countries were experiencing friction stemming from matters related to Korea's opening of its agriculture and service markets, and protection of intellectual property rights.

Noting the United States is Korea's biggest export market, he said he would seek to solve the friction through dialogue and negotiations.

Yi will head the Korean delegation to the Seventh Korea-EC High-Level Consultations in Seoul on May 27. The EC delegation will be led by EC Commission Vice President Frans Andriessen.

On Japan, he said the chronic trade deficit in Japan's favor was "not only a burden on our economy but is undesirable for the sound development of Korea-Japan relations. Therefore the government will continue to demand Japanese market opening and sincere efforts in the transfer of industrial technology and other fields.

"The government conveyed this position to Japan when President No Tae-u visited Japan in May last year, at the Korea-Japan ministerial conference last November, and during Prime Minister (Toshiki) Kaifu's visit to Seoul in January and my visit to Japan in late April. The Japanese Government showed a considerably more progressive response than in the past," he said.

Korea's trade deficit with Japan continues to widen despite the government's efforts to correct the situation, according to the Korea Foreign Trade Association [KFTA].

KFTA reported Thursday that the trade shortfall in capital goods with Japan increased from 7.3 billion dollars in 1988 to 8 billion dollars in 1989 and 8.4 billion dollars last year.

In 1990, Korea's exports to Japan amounted to 12.32 billion dollars and imports from Japan stood at 18.41 billion dollars, recording a 52.6 percent increase from 1989 and the largest setback ever.

Korea's aggregate trade deficit with Japan for 1981-1990 is 38.3 billion dollars.

Touching on economic ties with China, the Foreign Minister said two-way trade hit 3.8 billion dollars last year with the two countries becoming each other's seventh greatest trading partners.

"We are keeping close economic ties with investment totalling some 80 million dollars in 68 cases and exchanging nearly 60,000 people. When we enter into official relations with China, bilateral cooperation will expand further and more rapidly," Yi said.

"The government has set establishment of formal ties with China as one of the major goals of our diplomacy, but even before such relations, we will seek to prepare legal and systematic measures for mutually beneficial expansion of ties on the basis of human and material exchanges."

Investors Said To Favor Chinese Po Hai Region

SK0605112091 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 6 May 91 p 14

[Text] A majority of Korean investors wanting to advance into China reportedly prefer Shandong and Liaoning provinces near the Gulf of Po Hai for their investments, over the previously popular southeastern and northeastern provinces such as Jilin, Heilongjiang and Gwangdong.

According to the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK), of the 112 local firms visiting IPECK during the first quarter for consultation on investment in China, 63 firms (more than 50 percent) wanted to invest in the Po Hai Gulf area.

The 63 firms break down to 31 firms wanting to invest in Liaoning, 20 in Shandong, 8 in Beijing, 3 in Tianjin and 1 in Hebei.

On the other hand, 16 firms hoped to invest in Jilin and 11 in Heilongjiang, both in northeastern areas, while a total of 12 firms wanted to invest in southeastern regions.

The preference for the Po Hai Gulf area is due, largely, to geographical advantage, coupled with a sound investment climate and relatively stable social infrastructure in the regions.

First Joint-Venture Company Approved by China

SK0605112191 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 6 May 91 p 12

[Text] Korea Special Bearing Co. (KSBC) has established Han Qing Development Co. in a 50:50 joint venture with Qingdao city, China.

Han Qing Development, which was set up in Korea with a total paid-in capital of 100 million won, would be the first Korea-China joint venture to be officially approved by the Chinese government.

The joint venture will be in exclusive charge of arrangements for Qingdao's trade with Korea, including exports and imports of bearings, machinery, garments, steel products and marine products, as well as Korean enterprises' advances into Qingdao over the next 15 years.

Consequently, all the Korean firms which have already advanced into or want to have business relations with Qingdao should make business arrangements via Han Qing Development in the future.

Subject to the Korean government's approval, Han Qing plans to invest a total of 1.5-2 billion won in building a container yard and a trade center in Qingdao and establishing a car ferry route between Qingdao and Inchon.

Efforts To Maintain Kim Il-song's Health Noted

SK1005014891 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English Supplement, 10 May 91 pp 1, 5

[By staff reporter Kim Hye-won]

[Text] No other man's health seems of more concern to South Koreans than his. They, appear obsessed with his health.

But unfortunately, their concerns do not seem to stem from their love for him. Rather, they are concerned about the long-term implications and inter-Korean relations.

The reason is that north Korea's unprecedented totalitarianism may only come to an end after the death of Kim Il-song, one of the world's last Stalinist leaders.

Rumors about Kim's "bad health" or "senility" have persisted in South Korea for several years, and culminated with the "news of Kim's death" in 1986. A Korean daily, reporting the news, called it an "international scoop."

But to the disappointment of most South Koreans, the unparalleled dictator still seems in good health.

South Korean legislators who saw him addressing a congress of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Pyongyang April 29 said Kim looked healthy despite his advanced age. He had his 79th birthday last month.

Rep. Pak Kwan-yong said Kim walked unaided to the rostrum. Kim's voice was as strong and clear as ever, Pak added.

The old man's physical fitness was apparently demonstrated again during a dinner he hosted in honor of the IPU delegates at his residence in the suburb of Pyongyang that night.

Rep. Pak said Kim, carrying a small glass, was walking around the table of every delegation and toasted about 70-80 times with the delegates during the dinner.

The North Korean leader, in fact, has become more energetic in his public activities recently. In April alone, he appeared in over 10 public ceremonies, according to North Korean watchers in Seoul. He also attended over 20 events in connection with the IPU congress in Pyongyang.

Kim, they said, may have disproved the allegations related to his bad health before the foreign visitors.

But behind the seemingly good physical condition of Kim Il-song are endless efforts to keep him healthy, observers say. There are also signs that Kim is not as healthy as he looks.

According to South Korean intelligence sources, thee is an institute in Pyongyang solely for the systematic study of Kim's health.

Some 1,000 researchers, scientists and medical doctors in the institute, set up in 1976, each specialize in different parts of Kim's body and organs like the lungs, stomach, liver, heart and so on.

These people not only study ways of promoting the functions of the organs but also develop foods and medicines for preventing them from aging.

This institute at the Hyongjesan District in Pyongyang is named "the Longevity Institute.

Reportedly there are also special farms across North Korea which grow vegetables and fruits for Kim and his son Chong-il, the southern officials say.

Fruit trees here are fertilized with sugar instead of chemical fertilizers, they say. Cabbages, cucumbers, and other vegetables here are also organically grown.

A farm built in 1974 in the vicinity of Pyongyang raises dogs for Kim's consumption, the sources say.

The North Koreans are also taking special care to prevent Kim from being infected by others.

Those who meet with Kim Il-song in various functions are selected through strict physical examination. The children who are to present flowers to him are also chosen by undergoing various tests. Their hands and faces are disinfected by alcohol before they are taken before their "Great Leader."

All citizens who are mobilized in events where Kim is to be present should be free of any infectious diseases like infections of the eyes, hepatitis and tuberculosis, the sources say.

The North Korean authorities also operate groups, with nine to 12 members in each, to search for rare herbal medicines growing in such mountains as Paektu, Myohyang and Kumgang. They search for herbs like wild ginsengs, horns of wild deer and bear's gall.

Such reports have not been confirmed independently.

Yet, there are many signs indicating Kim's illness.

It is well known that a big tumor has grown on the right side of his neck since 1973.

He reportedly went to East Germany in 1974 for a close check-up of the tumor, which he still has. Though not malignant, the tumor causes Kim difficulty in hearing.

Intelligence sources say Kim secretly visited Beijing in September 1983 for a heart check-up. It has been widely reported that Kim had a problem with circulation, possibly high blood-pressure.

But a latest report indicates that Kim suffers from low blood pressure.

North Korea invited a Swiss medical team to visit Pyongyang in March this year to cure Kim Il-song's heartbeat problem. The three Swiss doctors including the chief of a Geneva hospital's cardiovascular department, however, were not allowed to visit north Korea by the Geneva state government for their failure to report their travel prior to the event.

The cardiologists later said they had been told that Kim was suffering from a slowdown of heartbeat, a South Korean diplomat in Geneva reported to his government.

Seoul officials say the fact that Kim has not traveled by air for a long time even on overseas trips might indicate his low blood pressure.

Kim was reported to have invited several Soviet physicians to visit Pyongyang in August 1987 but his problem at that time has not been revealed.

In addition, Kim reportedly suffers from rashes on his neck every summer and spends many days during the summer at his villa on Mt. Paektu to avoid the heat.

No one is sure how long the North Korean dictator will live.

Chinese senior leader Deng Xiaoping, while meeting Kim in person in China in November 1989, said in a clear voice, "I think you could live at least 10 more years."

Should Deng's prediction come true, Koreans, both in the South and North, may have to suffer for one more decade of Kim Il-song's rule.

North's Students Accept South Group's Proposal

SK0705095791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0823 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 7 (YONHAP)—An organization of North Korean students sent a fax Tuesday to South Korean activist students, agreeing to working-level talks at the truce village of Panmunjom in July on staging a festival for national reunification.

The leading evening daily TONG-A ILBO said it received the fax from Berlin, but withheld the identity of the sender.

A radical South Korean student group, the National Alliance of Student Representatives (Chondaehyup), proposed April 16 holding talks on bringing together students from around the world, including South and North Korea, in Seoul on Aug. 14-15.

The fax said the Northern students would send representatives July 7 to Panmunjom to discuss the festival and independent exchanges of students between the two Koreas.

Aug. 15 is a special day for Koreans, because it is the anniversary of liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

Similar efforts were made last year but failed because the South Korean Government banned the talks, insisting it was the sole channel for contact with North Korea.

South Soccer Squad Departs for North Korea

SK1005033791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0308 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, May 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea's soccer delegation entered North Korea through the truce village of Panmunjom for the last tryout game to select players for the joint team to play in the World Youth Soccer Championship in June in Portugal.

It was the first time a South Korean sports team had entered North Korea via Panmunjom since Korea was divided at the end of World War II in 1945. A South Korean soccer team visited Pyongyang after the Beijing Asian Games last year, but they flew to the North Korean capital from Beijing aboard a North Korean plane.

The 70 South Koreans—12 officials, 18 players, 15 support personnel and 25 reporters—were welcomed by Yi Han-pok, chief secretary of the North Korean Soccer Association, and other officials at Panmungak Pavilion in the North Korean section of Panmunjom.

O Wan-kun, head of the South Korean contingent, said in a statement that their visit to Pyongyang was progress in the aspirations of sports people of the two Koreas for reunification, following the progress made by joint participation in the World Table Tennis Championships in Chiba, Japan.

Chang Chung-sik, head of the projected joint Korean team, said he would not spare any efforts so that the team would display the excellence of the Korean people to the world as the single Korean team did in the pingpong championships.

The southern athletes were due in Pyongyang around 1:30 P.M. following a train ride near the border village.

Daewoo Plans 15 Joint Ventures in USSR

SK0605122491 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 6 May 91 p 12

[Text] Daewoo Corp., one of Korea's leading general trading companies, is going ahead with plans to set up joint ventures with the Soviet Union for 15 different items, for which plant exports under the $500 million tied loan Korea pledged will begin next year.

Under the principle of establishing 15 joint ventures (one per material), Daewoo plans to initially set up 7-8 such firms, and is doing the necessary preparatory work.

The joint ventures to be built next year will engage in exporting plants for Braun tubes, VCR's, microwave ovens, gloves for clinical operations, polyester textiles, footwear and medical equipment, respectively.

By establishing so many joint ventures, Daewoo hopes to increase plant exports to the Soviet Union supported by the tied loan. Major Korean trading firms are competing intensely to win the business.

In addition, Daewoo Corp. intends to utilize the joint ventures as bases to promote private-level cooperation projects with the Soviet Union which are expected to become more popular.

Currently, officials of Daewoo Corp. who are staying in the Soviet Union because of the tied loan-based consumer goods exports are also actively trying to negotiate setting up joint ventures related with plant exports with the concerned Soviet government authorities.

South, Soviet Firms To Begin Sakhalin Venture

SK1205022891 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 May 91 p 6

[Text] Tongwon Consolidated Coal Mine Development Co. of Korea and Sakhalin Offshore Gas Corp. (SOGC) of the Soviet Union will set up a 50-50 joint venture in August-September to explore the Okrozone oil field on Sakhalin, the Soviet Far East island, a senior official at the Ministry of Energy and Resources said yesterday.

The joint venture called Tongwon-SOGC Co. will become the first and most substantial result of the Seoul-Moscow resources cooperation talks since 1988, he said. "As far as I know, negotiations are under way between Tongwon and the Soviet counterpart concerning who will be given control over production operation and how to investment costs will be split.

Song Chae-kyu, president of Tongwon Consolidated Coal Mine Development Co., is on a one-month visit beginning May 5 to Sakahlin to determine details on the joint venture. He is to meet with a group of state representatives of Sakhalin and high-level officials of the SOGC.

Tongwon-SOGC Co. will be established at least by September with production expected early next year, a senior Tongwon official said, adding that natural gas and oil pumped from Okroznoe will be supplied to Korean consumers beginning early 1993.

Some $40 million will be invested by Tongwon and the SOGC wants to give the Korean company total control over exploration operation and the ownship of 50 percent of the total production instead of investing to cash money.

The Okrozonoe onshore oil field is estimated at 25 million barrels of sweet crude reserves, equivalent to Korea's monthly imported oil on the average. Both sides agreed in principle that all the oil and natural gas pumped from the Okroznoe oil field would be supplied to Korea.

Tongwon also plans to procede with a co-exploration project on the Uiglikuty onshore oil field located in northern Sakhalin around 1993.

The ministry disclosed the 10 most "economic and profitable" projects last month, and the cited two Sakhalin oil fields, together with Khavarovsk Prouvou urmi metal mine and Urgal coal mine, were at the top of the list of short-term projects.

A consultative body will be created by the ministry next week, comprising representatives of private-owned companies in a bid to avoid fierce competition between them and effectively participate in resources development projects in the Soviet Union, China and Vietnam.

Teachers, Professors, Lawyers Support Students

SK1005011591 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 May 91 p 3

[Text] More than 1,800 teachers of primary and secondary schools in Seoul, Kyonggi-to and Kyongsangnam-to issued statements Wednesday and yesterday backing ongoing college students' antigovernment protests.

Their statements, following similar actions by hundreds of college and university professors this week, are seen as an indication that the students' antigovernment protests over the death of Kang Kyong-tae are gaining wider support.

Yesterday, 529 teachers of elementary, middle and high schools in Chollanam-to issued a joint statement denouncing the riot police's clubbing to death of Kang, a student of Myongji University in Seoul, April 26.

In the statement, titled, "Our position on the current situation," the teachers demanded that President No Tae-u make a public apology over Kang's death and allow peaceful demonstration as the Constitution stipulates.

They also called on the government to implement sweeping, genuine democratic reforms to prevent the recurrence of a similar tragic incident.

It is the first time since President No Tae-u took office in February 1988 that elementary, middle and high school teachers have issued such antigovernment statements.

Such an action by elementary, middle and high school teachers is feared to stimulate high school students to join the college students' protests.

High school students last took to the streets in June 1987 when massive popular protests demanded democratization in the closing days of ex-President Chon Tu-hwan's rule.

On Wednesday, 911 teachers in Seoul and 400 teachers in Kyonggi-to issued antigovernment statements.

The teachers in Seoul claim that they will fight against the government saying that the government has done nothing while youths continue to commit self-immolation since Kang's death.

In the statement, the teachers demanded resignation of Prime Minister No Chae-pong and all other cabinet members and criminal prosecution against former Home Minister An Ung-mo and others to police officials responsible for Kang's demise.

They also called for the disbandment of the plainclothes police squads charged with arresting demonstrators and combat police.

The police squad, widely known as "Paekkoldan" (White Skeleton Corps), has been under popular fire for its "excessive" use of force against people at demonstration sites.

However, the government has avowed to continue the police squad comprised of martial art specialists as long as violent protests by students continue.

On the same day, 400 teachers in Kyonggi-to announced similar statements in which they claimed that Kang's death was caused by the "violence-loving current regime."

"The only solution to the current situation is genuine democratization of the country and the expelling of the current regime," the statement read.

Meanwhile, 226 teachers in Kyongsangpuk-to, President No's home province, issued antigovernment statements Wednesday.

In the statement, the teachers demanded that No admit his responsibility for the current difficult situation and make an open apology to the people and disband the "Paekkoldan."

Appealing for students to refrain from taking their own lives in a show of their protests against the government, the teachers asked the students to live and fight "till the days will come when true democracy will open in the country."

Meanwhile, 326 lawyers in Seoul Wednesday put forth a statement calling for the stepdown of Prime Minister No and all other cabinet members.

They claimed that the current government should resign because it lacks the will and ability to conduct true democracy.

"Kang's death and the youths' self-immolation are attributable to the youth's anger at and despair over the retreat of democracy and deepening social and economic conflicts," their statement read.

They urged the government to take concrete and tangible democratic reforms steps, including the scrapping of all anti-democratic laws such as the National Security Law.

In Chongju, 30 college and university professors staged a "silent street march" Wednesday in a show of support for the students' protests.

They, wearing a white mask, walked about 2km along the main boulevard in central section of the city, for about one hour and 20 minutes.

Prior to their street march, the professors issued a statement, named "A letter to the citizens," in which they said that they felt deep responsibility and pain for failing to prevent Kang's death.

Yesterday, 20 professors to Tongguk University in Seoul issued antigovernment statement in which they demanded the government stop the"suppression of democratic movement and rule by use of force."

Teachers Face Disciplinary Action

SK1105022991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 91 p 3

[Text] The Education Ministry has decided to take disciplinary action against over 2,000 school teachers who joined in issuing anti-government statements calling for sweeping democratic reforms.

Minister Yun Hyong-sop told superintendents of the nation's 15 educational districts yesterday that the statement signatories would face legal action or administrative discipline as they violated regulations.

Under the existing law, teachers at primary and secondary schools are prohibited from taking collective action for expressing political opinions.

The government is determined to crack down on the on-going protest movement which was sparked by the killing of a university student by police and ensuing self-immolation by four youths.

According to a ministry estimate, a total of 2,325 school teachers have joined in the signature campaign to demand educational reforms and the resignation of Prime Minister No Chae-pong.

"Defying the regulations that teachers at primary and secondary schools should keep neutral stance in political issues, they joined forces with radical students and dissidents in anti-government struggle," the minister said.

If teachers were punished for signing the antigovernment statements, it would cause a grave stir to the educational society as done with the collective penalty taken against those who join Chongojo, or the National Teachers Union in 1989.

A total of 1,527 teachers were dismissed for joining the outlawed teachers' union in 1989-90.

In yesterday's meeting, Minister Yun also instructed the district educational boards to launch an inspection to determine whether the statement signatories are associated with Chongyojo.

A ministry official said several teachers who drafted the statements would be fired and turned over to the prosecution for masterminding illegal group action.

"But most 'simple' sympathizers are likely to face punitive measures in administrative levels such as reduction of wages or temporary suspension of class teaching," the official added.

Teachers advocating the democratic reforms denounced the ministry for trying to oppress freedom of expression with a threat to take legal action.

About 900 school teachers in Seoul who gathered at the Yonsei University campus for the declaration of the antigovernment statement on Wednesday refused to submit letters for the collective action.

In the meantime, Chongyojo urged the Education Ministry to step back from its hardened policy for the massive crackdown on reform-seeking teachers.

In a seven-point statement, leaders of the outlawed union called for a revision to the educational law to guarantee three basic labor rights to school teachers.

Police Investigate Dissident Group in Suicide

SK1005011991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 May 91 p 3

[Text] The prosecution, investigating the self-immolation of a senior member of the nation's largest dissident group, chominnyon [National Democratic Alliance of Korea], is trying to reveal whether the death was forced by "impure" forces.

The prosecution is searching for several members of Chonminnyon who were close to the dead, Kim Ki-sol, chief of Chonminnyon's social affairs department, for interrogation on whether they helped Kim to commit suicide.

Among those sought are So Chun-sik, 43, chief of Chonminnyon's human rights committee, and Yim Chae-kun, 27, a Chonminnyon member who reportedly had a drink with Kim on the eve of his death.

The prosecution said it searched the house of one of Kim's relatives in Anyang, south of Seoul, to find a sample of his handwriting, but to no avail.

The prosucution said it would continue their search at Kim's residences, including his boarding room in northwestern Seoul, to determine whether the suicide note was authentic or not.

From Kim's family the prosecution took over such articles left at the suicide scene as Kim's shirts, glasses, a lighter and two paint thinner buckets in an effort to get fingerprints.

The prosecution said it would not conduct an autopsy on Kim's body, adding that an examination of the corpse Wednesday night confirmed that Kim's death was caused by head injury and burns all over the body.

The prosecution, in the meantime, said that it is possible that someone helped Kim in the self-immolation because he could not have opened the iron door to the roof of the main building at Sogang University alone.

The prosecution yesterday questioned Yun Yo-tok, professor of Sogang University's sociology department, who was reported to have said that he saw two or three people on the roof of the building at the time of Kim's self-immolation.

Yun, however, denied making such remarks, saying he saw only one person in a white shirt on the roof while entering the school at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

The prosecution confirmed that the person on the roof was Chu Chol-su, 23, a Sogang biology senior, who rushed to the scene just after the self-immolation.

In a related development, the pan-national council to deal with the recent self-immolations denounced the government and the prosecution for misleading the nation by revealing unconfirmed reports that Prof. Yun saw two or three people on the roof just after Kim's self-immolation. The council said that the government was trying to distort the meaning of Kim's death and imply that radical dissident groups had incited Kim's death to draw public attention.

Fifth 'Young Activist' Commits Self-Immolation

SK1105021491 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 91 p 3

[Text] Amid intensive investigation by prosecutors of suspicion that a series of self-immoltions might be agitated by hard-line dissidents, a 22-year-old man set himself ablaze in the compound of Chonnam University in Kwangju City yesterday.

Yun Yong-ha, formerly a manager at a distribution network for the progressive Hangyore Shinmun, was taken to the Chonnam University Hospital where he is listed in critical condition. Born in Sungju, near Kwangju, Yun was very active in dissident activities in Taejon.

He is the fifth young activist to have tried to commit self-immolation in less than two weeks following the first attempt by a female student at Chonnam National University in a desperate form of protest against the fatal beating of a student activist in Seoul late last month. Three of them have died.

Yun doused himself with paint thinner and set himself on fire in a restroom at the state-run university. He then rushed out toward an auditorium, shouting, "Down with the No Tae-u Regime" and "Yankee, Go Home," according to eyewitnesses.

After Yun was admitted into the hospital, about 100 students, armed with pipes, stood guard at the entrance to the emergency care room.

His action came one day after the largest protest against the No administration ever was staged.

Yonsei Professor Quits Over Students' Criticism

SK1005022491 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 May 91 p 3

[Text] A well-known professor at Yonsei University who had been criticized by students for playing down the death of a Myongji University freshman has tendered his resignation.

Prof. Kim Tong-kil of the history department commented during a recent lecture that it was improper to give the title of "martyr" to Kang Kyong-tae who died from a police beating April 26.

Such titles are often bestowed on student or labor activists who are killed in anti-government struggles.

Prof. Kim said after handing his resignation yesterday that he felt "betrayed" by his students who put up wall posters reporting remarks which were made in the course of a lecture.

"I was simply expressing an opinion, sharing the grief of parents of victims like Kang, but I was apparently misunderstood," he said.

His tenure at the university was not up for renewal until February 1994.

Student Occupiers of DLP Headquarters Arrested

SK1305055091 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0500 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Approximately 40 students who identified themselves as members of the suicide squad for national salvation of the National Council of University Student Representatives occupied the Democratic Liberal Party's [DLP] headquarters in Yoido, Seoul, at 1245 this afternoon and demanded that the DLP be disbanded and that the current regime resign. All of the students were taken to the police station approximately 20 minutes later.

Taking advantage of lax security due to the combat policemen's lunch hour, the students stormed into the main gate of the DLP headquarters and entered into the building wielding pipes and wooden bars against the combat policemen. The students occupied the press room on the third floor and the fifth and tenth floors, broke windows, and shouted slogans calling for the resignation of the current regime and other slogans. In their printed material, they demanded, in the name of a million students, that the DLP be disbanded, that the current regime resign, that the former home minister and other officials be detained, and that the plainclothes riot police be disbanded. The police took away 45 people, including male and female students, from the headquarters at around 1310 this afternoon, approximately 20 minutes after the students occupied the party headquarters. Approximately ten students and a combat policeman were injured.

Opposition Statement Says Cabinet Should Resign

SK1005063191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0543 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—The only way to solve the social chaos is for the cabinet that created it to resign, the main opposition New Democratic Party said Friday.

NDP spokesman Pak Sang-chon said the cabinet should have stepped down when "fiascos" ranging from inflation to contamination of the Naktong River hit the nation.

Prime Minister No Chae-pong Thursday rejected calls for his cabinet to step down, while vowing to get tough on social disturbances.

The cabinet has taken suppressive "security-first" policies since its inauguration late last year, Pak said, and distorted the true picture of the Suso housing scandal and a trip by three lawmakers that was financed by a lobbying group.

Pak said in a statement that this converged in the beating death of a college student by policemen, creating the current gloomy situation.

Pak urged the cabinet to take responsibility for the current situation before it was too late and the government to lay the foundation for democracy by revising laws such as the National Security Law that were harmful to democracy.

DLP-NDP Negotiations on Reform Bills Collapse

SK1005061691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0535 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—Negotiations between the ruling and opposition parties over reform bills, including revision of the National Security Law and Agency for the National Security Planning Law, broke up Friday after three rounds of talks.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and main opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) had set a deadline for compromise of Thursday midnight.

A head-on confrontation is now expected at the end of the current session of the National Assembly as the DLP plans apparently to railroad the revision bills on the National Security Law and Police Law through the Assembly and the NDP plans to use physical force to prevent the majority party from getting its way.

National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu plans to introduce the two bills on in his own authority as negotiations have collapsed and the midnight deadline set by the National Assembly Judiciary Committee has expired.

DLP and NDP floor leaders held three rounds of talks from Thursday afternoon to midnight to reach an accord on controversial parts of the bills, but never got out of the starting blocks.

NDP floor leader Kim Young-pae demanded the resignation en bloc of Prime Minister No Chae-pong and the rest of the cabinet before he would even begin the negotiations.

"We will make efforts for compromise in a sincere manner if the cabinet resigns to solve the current crisis," he said.

But DLP floor leader Kim Chong-ho would not budge from the government's stance.

"Negotiations on the reform bills cannot be linked to the issue of the resignation of the cabinet," he said.

The DLP floor leader told his NDP counterpart the DLP would have no other choice but to call for a vote on the reform bills if no progress was made in their talks.

NDP floor leader Kim replied: "We will totally mobilize our lawmakers and head off an attempt by the DLP to railroad through the bills, even resorting to physical strength."

"The NDP's political offensive to demand the resignation en bloc of the cabinet, influenced by outside pressure rather than by the content of the bills, became a stumbling block to progress," Kim Chong-ho said Friday. "Further negotiations between the DLP and NDP floor leaers will not be needed."

On both sides, senior party officials and lawmakers are to meet to discuss ways to deal with the reform bills before the plenary session.

The DLP faction controlled by party Executive Chairman Kim Young-sam opposes railroading through the reform bills on the grounds of the seriousness of nationwide anti-government protests demanding dissolution of the ruling party and an end to security-oriented rule.

DLP Pushes Through Controversial Reform Bills

SK1005111591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1027 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) railroaded Friday two controversial "reforms" bills through the National Assembly so swiftly that opposition lawmakers hardly had time to raise formal objection.

It took assembly speaker Pak Chun-kyu, backed by a horde of ruling party lawmakers, just 40 seconds to declare passage of the amended National Security Law and the police law. No sooner had Pak asked whether there were any objection than the ruling party lawmakers gave him a cry of consent.

Pak was standing in the rear of the main chamber, speaking through a megaphone. He announced, "the majority of lawmakers have expressed their consent... In view of the situation which does not befit a voting, I now declare the passage of the two bills."

The blitz was taken while opposition lawmakers were staging a sit-in in their bid to block the expected unilateral passage by the ruling party of the bills. The opposition lawmakers are to continue the protest until midnight Saturday.

Reps. Yi Hyop and Kim Tuk-su lunged at Pak to stop him but were repelled by ruling party legislators.

Pak immediately returned to his office and soon left the assembly.

Under the revised National Security Law, praising, exchanging money with or communicating with an enemy nation are outlawed if they are done in the knowledge that it might endanger the existence of the nation or fundamental democratic order.

The controversial clause on obligatory reporting of such acts was scrapped.

The amended law also redefines an "anti-state organization" as one that has a hierarchy and requires strict obedience.

Under the police law, the national police headquarters will be an independent agency under the Home Affairs Ministry, and two members of the seven-member Police Commission must be selected among judges.

Parties To Wage 'Fierce Struggle' Against DLP

SK1105032291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0131 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—Ruling and opposition parties moved one step closer to a head-on collision Friday evening when two political bills were railroaded through the National Assembly despite the opposition's objection.

"We will wage a fierce struggle against the ruling party. It will be the worst fight ever since the launching of the Sixth Republic," an indignant Kim Tae-chung, president of the main opposition New Democratic Party [NDP], declared shortly after the bills were passed.

One of the bills is an amendment to the controversial National Security Law, the legal ground for punishing communist sympathizers and unauthorized contacts with North Koreans and the other is for enactment of the police law. The NDP had called for more reforms be stipulated in the bills.

The ramming of the bills through the chamber came hours after President No Tae-u affirmed there will be no cabinet resignation en bloc in defiance of the rising public outcry for the stepdown of the No Chae-pong cabinet, and told both the administration and the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] to stay firm.

It took less than one minute that National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, protected by members of his DLP colleagues, introduced the bills and announced the passage. The DLP, born in February last year merging then ruling Democratic Justice Party and two minor opposition parties, occupies 218 of the 299 assembly seats.

The blitz action prompted an overnight sit-in protest by the NDP lawmakers at the assembly building on Yoido, western Seoul.

An NDP spokesman said Kim would kick off a nationwide tour of major cities aimed at spearheading anti-government rallies after ending the sit-in Saturday.

The minor opposition Democratic Party [DP] will also stage similar gatherings seeking the immediate dissolution of the incumbent National Assembly and the breakup of the ruling party.

Political observers say the coming week, with the 11th anniversary of Kwangju citizens' uprising for democratization on May 18, will see an intense struggle between the government and the anti-government forces.

With the government showing no sign of backing down and accepting the dissidents' demands to end the crisis kindled by the police killing of a Seoul collegian April 26, and with the rush of self-immolation among dissidents, the end of the tunnel is not in sight, the observers note.

A dissident activist in Kwangju named Yun Yong-ha became the fifth person to commit self-immolation since Kang Kyong-tae was fatally beaten by riot police during an anti-government demonstration in Seoul. Yun doused himself with flammable liquid and set himself on fire Friday evening, and is listed in critical condition at the Chonnam National University in Kwangju as is Pak Sung-hui, a student of the National University who ignited the wave of self-immolation shortly after Kang's death. Three others have died.

While anti-government forces were gearing up for yet another street war Saturday afternoon defying government ban on illegal street demonstrations, No discussed measures with DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam in a breakfast meeting on how to cope with the situation. Content of the discussion was not immediately known nor is it expected to bring forth great expectations for a change of attitude on the part of the government.

Political sources said the DLP was experiencing conflicts stemming from differences in opinion regarding the opposition demand for the resignation of the No cabinet.

No's faction opposes accommodation of the demand, while Kim Yong-sam's faction calls for it, saying No's supporters are underestimating the seriousness of the current situation, the sources said.

DP: Protests Show 'Public Opinion' Toward No

SK1105014191 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 May 91 p 2

[Text] The minor Democratic Party [DP] said Thursday's nationwide protests demonstrated how the people really think about the government of President No Tae-u.

In a statement issued yesterday, the party said over 300,000 people demonstrated in 87 areas including large and small cities and counties, the fiercest antigovernment demonstrations since the present Sixth Republic was inaugurated in February 1988.

"The clearly demonstrated to the No government, which continued to carry out public security politics while ignoring democratic reforms, where the bona fide public opinion lies."

The DP, with nine parliamentary seats at present, claimed that a majority of South Koreans disapprove of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party which is a "product of connivance and betrayal." The party called for the disbanding of the government party.

The giant DLP was created about one year ago as a result of a merger between the then ruling party and two opposition parties, one led by Kim Yong-sam and another by Kim Chong-pil.

The DP demanded that Prime Minister No Chae-pong and all cabinet members resign en masse and the "prisoners of conscience" be released.

The ruling DLP said there was a "quantitative" increase in the number of persons involved in Thursday's antigovernment protests.

No Chae-pong Reiterates No Resignation Plans

SK1105014891 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 91 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister No Chae-pong yesterday reiterated that he himself and his Cabinet members would not yield to "political offensives" aimed at driving them from the portfolios.

In a debate with journalists organized by state-run KBS and broadcast nationwide later, he said, "As head of the Cabinet, I feel deep pain and regret over the (fatal beating) incident of Kang Kyong-tae.

"Cabinet members, including myself, will keep their posts to perform their duties as public servants. Departure of the Cabinet could be misused for political plots," said No, formerly chief of staff for President No Tae-u until a major Cabinet shakeup last December.

He said that the prosecution is probing forces which might be behind several self-immolation cases, adding that he does not want to believe there are agitators of the suicide attempts and that such tragedy should not be repeated for any causes.

The political scientist-turned premier apparently feigned ignorance of what oppositionists term as "politicking by public security agencies or officials in public security."

He just said, "I don't know what the opposition camp means by public security-oriented administration. But you know public security is the basic responsibility of the administration. We will apply public power fairly to sustain order and stability of society."

Critics have maintained that the current policy-making is under the sway of a handful of conservative officials, who had served as prosecutors in charge of public security and have now stayed in the core of the administration, that they claim have functioned as old guards opposing democratic reforms.

When asked if he would admit that the opposition demands his dismissal because he could be a candidate for the next presidency from the present ruling camp, he said flatly that "every politician in this country knows that a person like me cannot be a contestant for power."

"They demand my departure and cabinet resignation just to weaken the government," he replied.

'Leniency' Considered for Security Law Offenders

SK1105043091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0400 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—The justice ministry plans to "save" some 200 people charged with light offenses under the National Security Law who have had their terms finalized or whose cases are pending through re-deliberation, renunciation and other ways following revision of the law.

A ministry official said Saturday that the government was considering leniency for light offenders whose terms have been finalized, although interim measures of the revised law exclude those already convicted of comforting the cause of North Korea from the revision.

The ruling party passed the revision to the National Security Law in less than one minute Friday over the protests of the main opposition New Democratic Party [NDP], led by Kim Tae-chung.

The ministry will soon start classification of offenders under the National Security Law to select those to be saved. Some 200 people arrested for encouraging or praising North Korean ideology will benefit by the measure, it was learned.

The ministry will soon drop charges against NDP President Kim and two other NDP lawmakers for failing to report an unauthorized visit to Pyongyang by a former NDP lawmaker.

Kim and Reps. Kim Won-ki and Yi Chul-yong were indicted for failure to report Rep. So Kyong-won's visit to Pyongyang two years ago to the law enforcement authorities.

Failure to report a visit or defection to North Korea was dropped from a list of crimes in the revision.

The ministry is also carefully studying reducing the prison terms or suspending the sentences of student activist Yim Su-kyung and the Rev. Mun Kyu-hyun, who were convicted of making unauthorized visits to North Korea.

Both Yim and Mun were sentenced to serve five years in prison by the appeals court in June last year.

Officials said most of the convicted were not light offenders but "extreme or core elements" and that leniency for them was unlikely.

They said, however, that sentence reduction or amnesty was a possibility "for national reconciliation."

President No Rules Out Cabinet Reshuffle

SK1105040691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0344 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u ruled out Saturday the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle as demanded by the opposition since the police killed a student demonstrator two weeks ago.

No told Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of his Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], it was undesirable for the question of responsibility for the killing to spill over to other administration posts as the home minister had been fired.

Meeting Kim amid a split in the party over whether to accept the opposition demands for a new cabinet, No told Kim to lead the effort to enhance solidarity among party members.

Kim, a former opposition leader who became the second most powerful man in the DLP, was reportedly urging party leaders to give positive thought to the opposition demands.

Touching on the DLP's railroading of two controversial bills through the National Assembly Friday despite prolonged protests by the opposition parties, the chief executive said his party had passed the bills after making them more progressive "to show the party's and the government's resolute will to introduce democratic reforms."

No told Kim he felt sorry for the political reality as the DLP had to ram the bills through the assembly session "due to the opposition parties' own interests and strategies."

No told Kim that he would order related ministries to study ways to grant clemency to people in prison for violation of the National Security Law "within the boundary of not hindering the execution of criminal provisions."

An official at the presidential office, Chongwadae, said prisoners could be released if charges were dropped or their indictments suspended "but exaggerated interpretation should be avoided," hinting lenient measures were unlikely to apply to such prominent figures as Yim Sukyong and the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, who were convicted of visiting North Korea without government permission.

For all the difficult political situation, No said, local elections in cities and provinces will be conducted in mid-June. The Chongwadae official said the elections would be held between June 11 and 14.

DLP Officials Oppose Plan To Use Reservists

SK1005014991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 May 91 p 3

[Text] The government's recent decision to put up to 15,000 military reservists a year to work in factories has been opposed by senior officials of the ruling party.

The officials of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] said the government should consult with the DLP before finalizing its decision.

The party understands the cabinet's plan to ease the serious manpower shortage in industries, but it obviously opposes the idea, they said.

The government previously planned to implement the "soldier-workers" program beginning Sept. 1, but DLP's opposition heralded a debate between the cabinet and its party and possibly the plan itself may be delayed or changed.

A Labor Ministry report, released in January on the 1990 workforce, shows that Korea lacks 192,055 industrial workers, 165,852 of them in the manufacturing sector.

While the average shortage was 4.34 percent, the rate on production lines was 6.85 percent.

Even more alarming was that the sortages were increasing every year, from 4.79 percent in 1987 to 5.24 percent in 1988, down temporarily to 4.92 percent in 1989, and jumping again to 6.85 percent last year.

So the government's plan, worked out in months of discussion among the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Defense Ministry, and the Economic Planning Board attests to the seriousness of the country's industrial manpower shortage, and to the government's resolve to do something about the problem quickly.

Under the government's plan, out of young men who are called up to do their national service as reserve conscripts, some 15,000 to 16,000 a year can, on a strictly voluntary basis, choose to spend five years working in industries instead of serving 18 months in the military as "short-term soldiers."

The conscripts can choose the company and the job, and all they need to do is file an application with the Office of Manpower Administration five days before they enter the reserves.

Military training will be shortened from six weeks to four weeks for the soldier-workers, and if they do not have a licensed skill they can go through about six months of training to get a license.

The draft act prohibits these soldier-workers from being paid less than other workers, so the only notable difference between them and their shopfloor colleagues will be that the reservists cannot join a trade union. This has invited attack from Chonnohyop, the largest labor activist group.

The soldiers can choose to stay in their job after the five years are up.

Electronics Exports 'Brisk' in First Quarter

SK0605151491 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 6 May 91 p 9

[Text] Electronics exports this year continue to be brisk. During the first quarter of this year, some makers registered a growth rate of between 30 and 45 percent. Samsung, Goldstar and Daewoo have already secured enough color television set and VCR [Video Cassette Recorder] orders to meet their sales goals for export in the first half of this year.

This favorable increase in exports is ascribable to the recovery of price competitiveness due to the strong currency in the EC region, recovery of exports to the U.S. and Japan, and continued boom in exports to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Samsung Electronics registered exports of $1,034 million during the January—March period, up 45 percent from a year earlier. Its exports to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe increased sharply by 115 percent, exports to the EC and European region by 65 percent, and those to Latin America by 74 percent. Exports to the U.S., however, decreased by 22 percent, and those to Asia and to the Middle East barely increased by 2 percent and 6 percent, respectively.

By item, semiconductor exports amounted to $310 million during the first quarter. Exports of color television sets increased by 69.5 percent and VCR's by 41 percent during the same period.

Goldstar's electronics exports amounted to $630 million during the first quarter of this year, an increase of 31 percent from a year earlier. Daewoo's exports increased by 30.5 percent to $96.88 million during the same period.

Burma

SLORC's 'Nation Building' Role Discussed

Part One

BK1005121991 Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 1 May 91 p 3

[First of a series of two articles by Mya Win: "Today's Politics; What Would You Call It?"]

[Text] Take a look back at Myanmar [Burma] history: you will find the feudalist period under the rule of kings, the colonial period of slavery, the AFPFL [Anti-Fascists Peoples Freedom League] period, the Caretaker Government period, the 'Clean' AFPFL period, the Revolutionary Council period, the Socialist Republic period and the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] Nawata [Burmese abbreviation for SLORC] period. You will also find national development peculiar to each of these periods. Today's politics must be called Nawata politics. These periodic politics have each its own distinctive features.

Today's special characteristic is the rule of law: this rule of law is as demanded by the present period. Everybody will have seen and remembered how a certain period came to an end. A period came to an end when the collapse of the rule of law reached its apex. To introduce and enforce laws regulating social life, strengthening State structure and protecting construction of a new State has therefore become the need of the day. This, in other words, is also the main task of the Nawata. It is natural that this task should be carried out on a basis of Martial Law or Military Administration Law. It is natural because when a period had come to an end with the total collapse of the rule of law, only Martial Law would be capable of reviving all other laws necessary for building a new period and a new system.

To change over from a single-party system to a multi-party system is a change over from one type of production relationship to an opposite type of production relationship. If such a change over is not gradual the whole country will run into social will run into social and economic hardships and may even disintegrate and lose national sovereignty.

The Revolutionary Council took twelve years to change over from a multi-party democracy system to a socialist democracy system. The Revolutionary Council did this fully realizing the need to secure the political, economic and social capabilities of the whole country. The Revolutionary Council believed that success would be achieved only if those capabilities were secured.

The character of the Nawata now taking responsibility to change over from one system to another opposite system is in this respect identical to the character of the Revolutionary Council. Myanmar, with a long history, had encountered such a situation only twice. The first time was in 1962 and the second time is now. Speaking strictly there have only been twice when a change over from one system to an opposite system has to be made. The Nawata is therefore the Second Revolutionary Council, in other words, it is to transform the nation into an almost diametrically opposite system as required by changing times. This does not however mean returning to the old. It is an advance to a higher and newer form of multi-party democracy.

The Nawata must actually not only restore law and order but must also rebuild and reform the nation as its main duty. The Law and Order Restoration Council must gradually transform itself into a Nation Building and Reformation Council to a degree that law and order has been restored. These are exactly the duties of a revolutionary council.

The Revolutionary Council came into power without having to use Martial Law: this was because the people fully accepted the Council. The Revolutionary Council created a new constitution that would enable construction of a social and economic system aspired by the people. It strove to organise all masses and political forces in a single political party to work to achieve an end desired by the people.

Part Two

BK1005122791 Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 2 May 91 p 3

[Second of a two-part article by Mya Win: "Today's Politics; What Would You Call It?"]

[Text] On the other hand, the State Law and Order Restoration Council has been compelled to resort to Martial Law in order to be able to curb violence and to usher in a new political system desired by the masses. With a view to establishing multi-party democracy the State Law and Order Restoration Council had to create conditions for emergence of political parties and to hold elections of peoples' deputies who will write a constitution.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council had especially to combat all embracing demands and to concentrate its attention to protect programmes for building of a new nation. It had to thwart all bids to secure State power through a short-cut and concentrate its attention to writing a constitution that would meet the aspirations of the masses. The State Law and Order Restoration Council has to desperately defend itself agaisnt all political, military and sabotage attacks launched by multicolour insurgents; against attacks of foreign 'rightist' elements; against confrontations in all forms perpetrated by internal 'leftist' and 'rightist' forces. And while doing so it has also to advance from stage to stage, with due regard to historical and legal requirements along the road to a multi-party democracy. In other words, the State Law and Order Restoration Council is performing the duties of a reforming and rebuilding government during this transitionary period. These characteristics stand on a much higher plane than the characteristics of an ordinary interim government. The characteristic of an interim government is that of a temporary political government, like the interim government of 1958 that only rode over a political storm and restored normalcy.

The present Myanmar [Burma] situation does not permit any one single party or a coalition of parties to form an effective interim government. Formation of such a government would retard the work of restoration of stability and implementation of development programmes. Neither will such a government be able to satisfy the aspirations of all national races. The nation will again run into a conflagaration created by over ground and under ground attacks.

Today's situation is not like the situation of 1947. In 1947 there was no insurgency in the country and the AFPFL [Anti-Fascists Peoples' Freedom League] stood as a united political force. Even then, the British Governor took into his Executive Council representatives of all political parties in proportion. Even Bogyoke [General] Aung San who led and represented the AFPFL functioned not in the form of an interim government or a provisional government but only as Deputy Chairman of the Governor's Executive Council. A place had to be given even to the Communist Party then. It must be remembered that the Constituent Assembly elected for the purpose of writing a constitution had to be elected on a proportional representation basis as laid down in the 1935 Act. Members of the Governor's Executive Council were therefore regarded as members with the rank of ministers.

Nobody should forget that the present period is a Martial Law period. The Martial Law government emerged out of national necessity, because the legal government ceased to function. And everybody will remember that the government was brought down by nationwide lawlessness. When Martial Law is enforced, the decision made at his discretion by the Chief Martial Law Administrator is law. No other law can restrict, limit or oppose such decisions. No Court has the power to question such decisions. A decison of the Martial Law Administrator, whether of good or bad consequence, becomes law. But during the period of restoration of law and order, Martial Law is enforced with restraint. The State Law and Order Restoration Council takes special care to ensure that an ordinary law abiding citizen has his full human rights and democratic rights. Action under Martial Law is taken only against elements who stage demonstrations and demands using unlawful force which amount to criminality, and against their abetters. Ordinary offenders are being dealt with by ordinary civil courts. Deterring violence in the country, protecting the State from disintegration and thwarting all bids to retard progress in fulfilling the aspirations of the masses have nothing to do with human rights. To be able to live a secure life is the most important of human rights. Political programme for the period when the State Law and Order Restoration Council is trying to achieve national objectives must be nothing else than the Proclamation No 1/90. Only a strict adherence to Proclamation 1/90 by all political parties and politicians will ensure a smooth and early success to the reforms Proclamation 1/90 has laid down the duties of organisations. The State Law and Order Restoration Council has also repeatedly explained to the nation those duties of organisations, personalities who must take part and rules and regulations that must be followed until such time as the State Law and Order Restoration Council relinquishes State power.

The political line, political programme and political principles of the State Law and Order Restoration Council period is therefore very clear. They resemble those of the Revolutionary Council period that lasted from 1962 to 1974. To concretise the aspirations of the masses, to build a new State and to reform are apparent special characteristics of today's politics.

To sum up: the three main tasks of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, namely to protect national unity, to build a new State, and to reform towards a higher political life are found to be the main requirements of the nation. It must be welcomed as a correct national politics.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Chinese Party Plans To Set Up Cultural Center

BK0905111391 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 May 91 p 13

[By K.H. Lim]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tues.—The MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] presidential council today decided that the party go ahead with its plans to set up its proposed Malaysian Chinese Cultural City [MCCC].

However, it has instructed all its leaders to explain the concept properly to all quarters to avoid any misunderstanding.

Organising committee chairman Datuk Loke Yuen Yow said today that the porposal was not for the creation of a Chinatown.

He said that with proper explanation, the party was "hopeful" that Barisan Nasional (BN) [National Front] leaders would support the plan.

He told reporters after the weekly presidential council meeting here that the party would also explain in detail the proposal to BN leaders.

He said president Datuk Sri Dr Ling Liong Sik had earlier discussed the proposal with top BN leaders but now the party felt further discussions were necessary.

On calls for a special meeting to discuss this within BN, he said he saw no such need at present.

Asked if MCA Ministers would clear up any misunderstanding at tomorrow's weekly Cabinet meeting, he said it was likely they would explain the concept to their colleagues.

On the use of the name "city", he said it was only a cultural centre and not a Chinatown.

Datuk Loke, the Deputy Finance Minister, said there were already cultural centres for other minority communities in the country and that as far as he could remember they did not touch on sensitivities of any community.

UMNO [United Malays National Organization] secretary-general and Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat had criticised the project and suggested the MCA focus on assimilation instead.

UMNO vice-president and Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi had yesterday commented that any move to project the identity of only one race was against the Government's efforts to promote the Malaysian identity.

Datuk Loke said that the centre was to put on display the Malaysian Chinese cultural heritage in Malaysia and would emphasise the inter-racial co-operation in nation-building.

The MCA had planned to set up the cultural city on an eight-hectare site, and Datuk Loke said the party had yet to identify the site, which would be in Kuala Lumpur or Selangor.

On suggestions that it be located in Penang or Malacca, he said his committee could consider this if there were donors willing to provide the site.

Malacca UMNO Youth today said it was totally against the proposed MCCC which could aggravate racial problems in the country if it was set up.

It urged MCA to get the views of UMNO and other BN component parties before going ahead with the plan.

Malacca UMNO Youth Treasurer, Naim Mohamad, said MCA should not pander to the wishes of certain quarters.

UMNO Youth Wing Opposes Center

BK1105162391 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak, chairman of the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Youth Movement, says the movement is opposed to a plan by the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] to set up a Chinese cultural center in this country. The UMNO Youth Movement also opposes any such idea by any group at present or in the future because the idea is against the national ideology, which wants to build a united nation of Malaysia.

The stand adopted by the UMNO Youth Movement was made at a special meeting at Kuala Lumpur's Putera World Trade Center today. Datuk Sri Najib added that MCA's plan is also against Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir's plan to turn Malaysia into a developed nation by the year 2020. Therefore, the UMNO Youth Movement called on any group which entertains similar ideas to stop any action which may undermine the country's unity.

Singapore

Scientific Cooperation With PRC Scientists

BK0705120391 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 6 May 91 p 25

[By Sunny Goh in Beijing]

[Text] Singapore's bid to be a leading research and development centre is being boosted by its links with scientific institutes in China.

Later this year, Chinese scientists from China's National Institute of Metrology here will visit Singapore to teach their Singapore counterparts temperature calibration techniques.

Their visit is part of a [Singapore] $400,000 project between the institute and the Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research [SISIR]. Both parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March last year to facilitate such technology transfer.

Revealing this yesterday, SISIR's Director of Technology Transfer Division, Mr Teo Nam Kuan, said that the institute used to send its temperature-measuring instruments to other countries for calibration.

"With the new skill and equipment, we will be able to do this ourselves," he said, adding that this would greatly benefit the electronics and aerospace industries in Singapore.

Mr Teo, who is a member of Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's delegation to China, also disclosed that SISIR had signed agreements with the Shanghai Institute of Technical Physics and the Zhejiang University in Hangzhou to jointly develop thin-film coating technology. It is a term to describe the coating of chemicals on certain surfaces, such as lens and glass, to allow either infra-red or ordinary light to pass through.

Cambodia

U.S. Invited To Verify Troop Withdrawal

BK1305141091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 13 (AFP)—Cambodia invited the U.S. Government to send a fact finding mission to verify the 1989 Vietnamese troop withdrawal, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Monday. The resistance parties and their sponsors, including Washington, charge that a significant Vietnamese military presence remains in this war-torn country.

Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker inviting him to send a fact finding mission or a team of neutral observers to determine if Vietnamese troops remain in this country. The message was sent through U.S. senator and Vietnam War veteran John Kerry, who visited Phnom Penh on May 3 and 4, Mr. Hor Namhong told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. He added that a four-member U.N. military mission due Tuesday in Phnom Penh to monitor a cease-fire with the resistance could take the opportunity "to see if there are still Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

"We are ready to facilitate trips anywhere in Cambodia to monitor the cease-fire and to verify the withdrawal," said Mr. Hor Namhong, who complained about "a lot of wrong information or wrong commentaries about the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia."

The cease-fire came into effect May 1 and appeared to be generally holding despite mutual charges of violations.

The Khmer Rouge and its two smaller non-communist U.S.-aided resistance partners were expected to raise the issue of the Vietnamese presence during talks with the U.N. team. Hanoi and Phnom Penh firmly maintain that all remaining Vietnamese combat troops were pulled out of the country in late September 1989. An unspecified number of advisers remain under legal bilateral accords, they say.

But a senior U.S. official, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Richard Solomon, last month estimated that Hanoi had between 5,000 and 10,000 military advisers stationed in the country. The three resistance parties maintain that there are tens of thousands of combat troops and millions of Vietnamese settlers in the country.

The Vietnamese invaded Cambodia in December 1978 after months of provocation to oust the brutal Khmer Rouge regime, which took power in 1975.

Hun Sen, Belgian Diplomat Meet on Situation

BK1105154391 Hong Kong AFP in English 1516 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 11 (AFP)—Phnom Penh will never accept the dismantlement of its armed forces ahead of elections, a diplomatic advisor to aid workers here said Satuday.

Raoul Jennar, after a meeting Saturday with Prime Minister Hun Sen, said the Phnom Penh leader had been particularly firm on this point—one of three major obstacles to forging an agreement with the three party resistance alliance.

"They will never, never, never accept the dismantlement of the Army," during the interim between the signing of a peace pact and the holding of general elections, Mr. Jennar said.

Mr. Hun Sen also firmly rejected proposals to replace the army by a UN peace-keeping, police or buffer force, the Belgian diplomatic advisor added.

The Phnom Penh authorities had no faith in the world body's ability to keep the peace and prevent the Khmer Rouge from grabbing power and the Army must be kept intact as it would be dificult to disarm guerrilla forces scattered in remote areas of the country with hidden arms caches.

The warring sides are expected to discuss the disarmament issue when they meet early June in Jakarta to try and iron out Phnom Penh's objections to full acceptance of a UN peace plan.

But Mr. Jennar said that while steps forward might be taken, "It's impossible to reach an agreement early in June in Jakarta."

Mr. Jennar said the Phnom Penh side would likely try to link the current unprecedented ceasefire with a cessation of overseas arms supplies to the rival sides. China is the main military backer of the resistance while Vietnam and the Soviet Union have forwarded weapons to the resistance.

Mr. Hun Sen would also seek agreement for the ceasefire, launched May 1, to remain in place until a comprehensive political settlement was forged.

The opposing sides have traded charges of truce violations but the ceasefire seems to have been observed in most areas, Cambodian officials and visitors to flashpoint areas have said.

Mr. Jennar said Phnom Penh appeared to be formulating its own policy on the UN plan though the government did not deny Vietnamese influence and presence.

He added that this was more on internal policy with Vietnam fearful of the introduction of political pluralism ahead of elections.

The UN plan leaves the door open to a multi-party system and this question would likely be raised at Jakarta, Mr. Jennar said.

Phnom Penh also objects to the draft proposals to hand over key administrative powers to the United Nations in the period between a comprehensive political settlement and UN-run general elections and says the draft does not provide adequate measures to stop the Khmer Rouge from returning to power.

The Marxist resistance faction turned Cambodia into a giant labour camp from April 1975 to January 1979, when Vietnamese troops captured Phnom Penh and installed the current government.

Mr. Jennar said Mr. Hun Sen had compared Phnom Penh's position to that of Israel in that it would take no risks that endangered its survival.

The diplomatic advisor is due to leave here Sunday for Thailand where he would meet diplomats, government officials and aid workers.

Diplomat Comments Further

BK1105160091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1523 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 11 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge resistance faction will continue to fight if excluded from a new government after general elections, a diplomatic advisor to non-governmental organisations here said Saturday.

"They are ready to play this political game" and take part in U.N.-run elections once a peace pact is signed, Raoul Jennar, said of the former rulers of Cambodia.

But he cited Khmer Rouge officials as saying earlier this year that they would continue to fight if they were excluded from a coalition government following free and fair elections.

He cited a Khmer Rouge officer as saying, "We will fight again" if the Marxist group's nominal leader Khieu Samphan was not named head of state, prime minister or foreign minister.

The Phnom Penh government has refused to fully accept a U.N. peace plan for Cambodia saying it does not provide "concrete measures" to prevent a return to power by the Khmer Rouge.

The group's rule left hundreds of thousands of Cambodians dead between April 1975 to January 1979, when it was ousted by Vietnamese troops and replaced by the current government.

Mr. Jennar, who met with Prime Minister Hun Sen earlier Saturday, also told NGO officials that Phnom Penh wanted the Khmer Rouge to be dismantled as a political movement.

Phnom Penh was "ready to accept that a new party will be the successor to this kind of ideology, but with a new name and new leadership."

Mr. Jennar said Mr. Hun Sen had acknowledged that the Khmer Rouge had scored success in some areas of the country "because they say if the Khmer Rouge don't win the election war will continue ... That's their propaganda."

The Khmer Rouge play on nationalism and anti-Vietnamese sentiment and target the poorest peasants but most observers agree they could never win free and fair elections.

SPK: Opposition Violates Cease-Fire 5, 6, 7 May

BK1105051491 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0427 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 11—The Khmer opposition factions repeatedly violated the ceasefire in many provinces on May 5, 6, and 7, causing many losses in life and property to the local people.

The Khmer Rouge Polpotists on May 5 infiltrated into Trapeang Thnaot village, Trapeang R'peo commune, Kampot Province, killing five peasants, burning 58 dwelling houses, and robbing two motorcycles. At the same time, they also went on a looting spree in Kep, a resort side in the province.

On May 6-7, the coalition troops fired from 501-700 shells of artillery on an area 13 km northeast of Phnom Damrei, Battambang Province. They also sent scouts to reconnoitre the government's front-lines in the same province.

In Kompong Thom Province, the Polpotists, in cooperation with the Sihanoukists, slammed dozens of artillery shells into an area about 18 km northwest of Stoung District. Men of Pol Pot's Division 802 carried ammunition across [word indistinct] 12 to the northeastern part of Stoung District, same province.

The opposition troops on May 6 fired 82-mm recoiless-gun on an area 16 km northeast of the provincial town.

Resistance Statement on UN Fact-Finding Mission

BK1205020091 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 11 May 91

["Full text" of statement issued by the three parties of the Cambodian National Resistance on the UN fact-finding mission in Cambodia—dated 11 May; read by announcer]

[Text] 1. At the request of His Excellency Rafiuddin Ahmed, UN deputy secretary general, to dispatch a UN fact-finding mission to Cambodia led by General Timothy Dibuama, the three parties of the CNR [Cambodian National Resistence] will receive the team in the near future. However, the CNR wants His Excellency Rafiuddin Ahmed and the fact-finding mission to clarify the mandate and the framework of the process to be carried out by the team.

The Hanoi Vietnamese authorities can in no way construe General Timothy Dibuama's mission as an acknowledgement of their maneuvers to keep intact the so-called military and political status quo in Cambodia because this is against the framework blueprint of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC].

2. The three partners of the CNR have already accepted the five UNSC permanent members' 28 August 1990 framework document, which has been adopted by the UNSC through its Resolution 668/1990 on 20 September 1990, and the 26 November 1990 draft agreement on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem.

As for Vietnam and the Phnom Penh side, they have been opposed to these documents and have carried out all manner of maneuvers to destroy them. Along with this, on Cambodia's battlefield Vietnam and the Phnom Penh side have seized the opportunity of the temporary cease-fire to build up their forces and have launched offensives against the Cambodian national resistance forces throughout the country.

3. The three parties of the CNR are of the opinion that to restore peace to Cambodia at the earliest date, it is necessary that all the parties involved in the Cambodian war accept the framework document of the five UNSC permanent members and the draft agreement on a comprehensive political solution as quickly as possible. This is to enable a UN transitional authority with a well-defined mandate from the UNSC and sufficient military and civilian personnel mostly from neutral countries to effectively carry out its duty.

4. The three parties of the CNR wish to call on the international community to continue supporting all the documents of the five UNSC permanent members and to urge Vietnam and the Phnom Penh side to totally accept these documents. This is to put an early end to Vietnam's war of aggression against Cambodia via a comprehensive political solution and to guarantee Cambodia's lasting genuine peace, independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national unity.

Khieu Samphan Accepts UN Fact-Finding Mission

CM1305163091 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 May 91

["Text" of message from Khieu Samphan, "Cambodian vice president in charge of foreign affairs and head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea," to Rafiuddin Ahmed, UN deputy secretary general, on the UN fact-finding mission in Cambodia—dated 9 May; read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency: I would like to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 7 May 1991 in which you notify me that you have decided to send a fact-finding mission to Cambodia. At your request, we will receive General Timothy Dibuama and his delegation on Sunday, 12 May. However, on this issue, we would like to know the well-defined mandate of the mission, within which framework it will carry out its work, and what are its further activities.

As all of us already know, the destiny of Cambodia and the Cambodian people are in a precarious situation. If there are no well-defined mandate and framework of operations, the Cambodian people, who are currently under Vietnamese occupation will be disadvantaged. In fact at present, we have:

1. Resolution 668/1990 of the UN Security Council [UNSC]. The resolution has officially endorsed the 28 August 1990 framework document of the five permanent members of the UNSC and the Jakarta 10 September 1990 joint statement.

2. The 15 October 1990 resolution of the 45th UN General Assembly.

3. The 26 November 1990 draft agreement and the Paris 23 December 1990 joint statement.

We, the Democratic Kampuchea party and the other two parties of the Cambodian National Resistance [CNR], have already accepted the aforementioned documents.

The Hanoi Vietnamese authorities and the Phnom Penh side have continued maneuvering for the purpose of destroying these documents. The reality to date has demonstrated that Vietnam and the Phnom Penh side have taken advantage of the opportunity of a cease-fire to launch military operations against the CNR everywhere all over the country. Vietnam has employed the cease-fire in Cambodia to carry out military offensives as it did previously during the truce between 1968 and 1975.

Along with this, the Hanoi Vietnamese authorities have taken the opportunity of the current situation to build up their forces and to intensify shipments of armaments and ammunition to boost the strength of the Armed Forces in order to launch offensives against the Cambodian national resistance forces.

That being the case, it is extremely important and urgent that all the parties involved in the conflict accept the blueprint framework of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the draft agreement. This is to allow a UN transitional authority, with a well-defined mandate from the UN Security Council and sufficient military and civilian personnel with all the necessary facilities, to carry out the mandate.

At the meeting with General Timothy Dibuama and his delegation, we will certainly ask for more clarifications.

Your Excellency, please, accept our highest regards.

[Signed] Khieu Samphan

Khmer Rouge Fails To Attend UN Meeting

BK1105025891 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 May 91 p A2

[By Kunchada Chaiphiphat]

[Text] Plans for a UN military team observing a ceasefire in Cambodia to visit the Khmer Rouge headquarters hit a snag yesterday when the communist guerrillas failed to attend a meeting to advise the officials on where they should go, informed sources said yesterday.

Representatives of the Khmer Rouge also did not show up at a meeting yesterday held at the Bangkok United Nations office to discuss arrangements for the four-member team, which is scheduled to arrive here today.

Attending the meeting were officials from the Thai Army, the United Nations, the Foreign Ministry and representatives from the faction loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) of Son Sann, the two non-communist factions in the tripartite resistance.

According to plans worked out at yesterday's meeting the team would begin their six-day on-the-spot review of the ceasefire situation at the Khmer Rouge headquarter inside Cambodia tomorrow, followed by visits to the headquarters of the two non-communist factions on Monday.

The UN team would then fly to Phnom Penh on Tuesday and spend three days there before returning to Bangkok.

A UN official said during the visits, the team would inspect the general situation and get a briefing on the military situation from the factions's leaders.

He did not rule out the possibility of skipping the scheduled visit to the Khmer Rouge's military base while the team awaited a last minute reply from the communist guerrillas.

"The planned trip would proceed according to the schedule, we would continue to visit the other two-non communist factions' areas and fly to Phnom Penh on Tuesday," he said.

Resistance sources said the team would visit the headquarters of the National Sihanoukist Army (ANS) opposite Lahansai District of Buri Ram province and in the afternoon they would proceed to the KPNLF's base opposite Ta Praya district of Prachin Buri province.

Khmer Rouge officials contacted last night said they had not received any news from their leaders at the border concerning the UN team.

The ceasefire began on May 1 after resistance groups and the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government accepted a April 5 appeal by UN Secretary General Javier Perez De Cuellar and France and Indonesia, the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia. It is due to stay in place until the four factions meet for the next round of peace talks, scheduled to be held June 2-3 in Jakarta.

The four-member team representing the UN Secretary General and France and Indonesia are Maj Gen Timothy Dibuama, military adviser to the UN secretary general, as the team's leader, H. Ammabi, official from the UN Secretariat Office, Lt Col Eduard Catagnet- Cazlis, a military attache at the French Embassy in Bangkok and Col Sutarto from Indoensia.

Further on Meeting

BK1205110491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1043 GMT 12 May 91

[Excerpt] Aranyaprathet, Thailand, May 12 (AFP)—A United Nations military mission began Sunday a survey of Cambodia's ceasefire and won a renewed pledge from the Khmer Rouge to observe the truce.

The U.N. team leader, Ghanaian Major General Timothy Dibuama, said here after a meeting in northwestern Cambodia near this Thai border town that officials of the radical Marxist group had told him they would "continue to observe the de facto cease-fire" in force since May 1.

Reporters were barred by Thai troops from crossing over into Cambodia to the Khmer Rouge border settlement of Phum Thmei, 30 kilometers (18 miles) south of here, where the one hour meeting was held.

Phum Thmei is at the foot of the jungle-clad Phnom Malai range, one of the Khmer Rouge major border strongholds.

Maj. Gen. Dibuama, whose team is to hold discussions later this week with the other Cambodian factions—the Khmer Rouge's smaller non-Communist allies and Phnom Penh's Vietnam-installed government—said the meeting with the Khmer Rouge "went very well."

He did not, however, meet Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, as had been expected, but only middle ranking officials from the faction, which was driven from power in Cambodia 12 years ago by invading Vietnamese troops.

The Ghanaian officer, whose team includes French Colonel Edouard Castagnet-Cazalis, Indonesian Colonel Sutarto, and a senior U.N. official from Tunisia, Hedi Annabi, said he met with Khmer Rouge officials Mak Ben and Kor Bun Heng.

Maj. Gen. Dibuama said in Bangkok Sunday he wanted to discuss with the factions "practical measures" to ensure the truce holds. He did not elaborate.

After his meeting with Khmer Rouge officials, he also declined to provide details on any concrete measures for verification or possible proposals that his mission may discuss with the factions.

"It is not our intention to set any machinery in motion to observe the cease-fire. We have not come to that stage yet," he said when asked whether the possibility of sending U.N. observers had been raised during the meeting.

Maj. Gen. Dibuama stressed, however, that the Khmer Rouge was "committed to a comprehensive peace settlement for Cambodia"—a possible reference to repeated statements by the Khmer Rouge and its partners that a formal cease-fire could only come into effect when an agreement to end the war was concluded. [passage omitted]

DK Officials Receive UN Military Team

BK1305010091 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] On 12 May, Mak Ben and (Kor Bunheng), ambassadors attached to the Office of Khieu Samphan, head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea [DK] and Cambodian vice president in charge of foreign affairs, received General Timothy Dibuama, head of a UN mission, at an office in the liberated zone of our Cambodian National Resistance [CNR] forces.

After cordially and warmly greeting the guests, our DK representatives asked General Timothy Dibuama about the mandate and the right and authority of this mission and under what framework it worked. Our DK representatives stressed to the UN delegation that the three CNR groups fully support the framework document of the five permanent UN Security Council members dated 28 August 1990 and the draft agreement dated 26 November 1990 and support the holding of the Jakarta meeting and Paris conference as soon as possible.

Our DK representatives noted that the Vietnamese war of aggression and occupation of Cambodia has lasted for more than 12 years now. The situation is very complicated because Vietnam and its puppets have carried on their maneuvers on the battlefield as well as their diplomatic schemes in order to destroy the UN peace plan. The only way to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia, thus enabling Cambodia to enjoy genuine and long-lasting peace with independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national unity, is for all sides to accept and strictly implement all of these documents. The Cambodian people and the CNR forces which have suffered from the Vietnamese war of aggression for the past more than 12 years need a UN peacekeeping force which has a clear mandate and sufficient manpower to be organized by the UN Security Council on the basis of the overall agreement and the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

Indonesia

Cypriot Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

BK1105082691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0743 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Jakarta, May 11 (ANTARA)—The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) should play a greater role as the NAM member countries still encounter many political and economic problems such as those in South America and Africa which must be overcome, visiting Cypriot Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou has stated.

The Cypriot foreign minister made his statement on arrival at the Sukarno-Hatta airport here Saturday to start his three-day official visit to Indonesia.

On the same day, Iakovou was to hold talks with his Indonesian counterpart Ali Alatas after a luncheon at the Hotel Borobudur here.

The Cypriot Foreign Minister disclosed that many changes have occured in the current international affairs so that NAM should observe the changes closely.

As to the two countries' relations, Iakovou expressed the hope that the Indonesia-Cyprus bilateral economic/trade relations could be further stepped up in the future as the trade volume between the two nations today was still relatively small.

Based on data available at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the two countries' trade volume in 1989 was recorded at 5.85 million U.S. dollars, showing a slight increase compared with that in 1988 which stood at 5.50 million U.S. dollars.

The volume reached 6.58 million U.S. dollars during the January-August period of 1990.

The Indonesian export value to Cyprus in 1989 reached 5.62 million U.S. dollars, an increase compared with that in 1988 which only stood at 4.52 million U.S. dollars, and in the 1990 January-August period, the value was up to 6.58 million U.S. dollars.

Indonesian imports from Cyprus in 1989 were valued at [words indistinct] million U.S. dollars, a decrease compared with those in 1988 which only reached [word indistinct] million U.S. dollars while the import value during the January-August period in 1990 was only recorded at 445 U.S. dollars.

Since his visit for the first time to Indonesia in 1988, many Cypriot trade missions had come to Indonesia, he said, adding that the long distance between the two countries should not hamper the effort to step up bilateral economic/trade relations.

Meets With Alatas

BK1205090091 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Cypriot Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou held discussions in Jakarta yesterday on problems which the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] are currently facing and on ways to solve them. They also discussed detailed methods to be put forward during the upcoming ministerial level NAM summit scheduled to be held in Accra, Ghana in September this year.

This was stated by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas yesterday after meeting with his Cypriot counterpart who arrived in Jakarta as Minister Alatas' guest. Minister Ali Alatas said the upcoming ministerial level NAM summit which will be held in Accra is the first to be held after the recent global reforms.

According to Minister Ali Alatas, the NAM member countries are currently exerting all their efforts to make the upcoming conference a successful one. The NAM, which has more than 100 members, is currently headed by Yugolslavia and Indonesia is one of the cofounders of the movement. He added that the movement is currently focusing its attention on global problems—particularly the Middle East, the Palestinian issue, Cyprus, and South Africa as well as the Cambodian conflict.

Minister Ali Alatas said that in addition to making preparations for the upcoming NAM summit, the Accra meeting would also have an added dimension by giving the NAM foreign ministers an opportunity to evaluate the global situation during the post Gulf war era.

University Lecturer Jailed for Subversion

BK1205150891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0507 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Jakarta, May 10 (AFP)—An Indonesian court has jailed a university lecturer on subversion charges linked to a separatist movement in Aceh province, the official ANTARA NEWS AGENCY said Sunday.

ANTARA said the state court in Banda Aceh, the northern province's capital, Saturday found Hasbi Abdullah, 44, guilty of involvement with the Aceh Merdeka (Free Aceh) which the military blamed for a series of raids last year.

Mr. Abdullah, who teaches economics at the Syiah Kuala University in Banda Aceh, took part in the meetings of Aceh Merdeka to plan fund-raising, gather weapons and launch terror campaigns against the military, presiding Judge Zaini Hamzah said before delivering the verdict.

The group sought to establish a separate Islamic state in Aceh and to undermine the current government, the judge said.

Mr. Abdullah is the ninth alleged member of the Aceh Merdeka to be convicted this month. Nine others are currently on trial in Banda Aceh and other cities in the province on similar charges.

The group was blamed for several killings and ambushes of troops last year, and human rights organisations say the number of casualties among Aceh Merdeka, troops and innocent civilians has reached several hundred.

Aceh Independence Activist Jailed for 10 Years

BK1205145891 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 1218 GMT 12 May 91

[Excerpt] Banda Aceh, 12/5 (ANTARA) - Teuku Muhammad Said (44), a former member of the Aceh Besar District People's Assembly, was sentenced to 10 years minus the time he spent in police custody after being found guilty of active involvement with the GPK [Security Disturbing Band, the official term for the Free Aceh Movement fighting for independence in Aceh Province].

A council of judges of the Lhok-nga (Aceh Besar) District Court chaired by Luthfia Hanum S.H. [academic title] said in its verdict which was alternately read over that the defendant, detained since 1990, actively held various meetings with other GPK Aceh activists in Banda Aceh and the Aceh Besar District.

Based on information provided by witnesses and evidence shown during the trial, the defendant went to Malaysia and Singapore around mid-1990 to obtain fake rupiah bank notes and meet "Prime Minister" Malik Mahmud (prime minister of the GPK Aceh) for discussions on the GPK's activities.

In the mission, the defendant failed to meet Malik Mahmud and bring back fake rupiah bank notes to Indonesia, but he admitted that he had met in Malaysia with several Aceh youth who had just undergone military training in a Middle East country.

"They will return to Aceh around 1992 to foil the 1992 general elections," the defendant told other GPK Aceh activists in a meeting in a coffee shop in Banda Aceh.

In addition, the defendant has undermined the legitimate government and distorted facts that could cause divisions among the people, thus hampering development programs. [passage omitted]

Retired Military Member Sentenced

BK1305033391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0307 GMT 13 May 91

[Excerpts] Jakarta, May 13 (AFP)—Courts in the westernmost Indonesian province of Aceh have handed down 10 year jail sentences to two members of a group seeking to set up a separate Muslim state, press reports said here Monday.

The state court in Langsa in East Aceh jailed Saturday retired military member Usman Irsyadi, 61, for 10 years, while another court in the provincial capital of Banda Aceh handed down a similar sentence to former district parliamentarian Teuku Muhammad said, 44, on the same day.

Mr. Irsyadi, whose last military rank was not disclosed, was found guilty of supplying the Security-Disturbing Movement (GPK) in Aceh with four hand grenades and an unspecified amount of bullets, the KOMPAS DAILY said.

The defendant, who had obtained the grenades and bullets while on service, also knew of the GPK's aims and activities but had failed to report it to the authorities, the court said. [passage omitted]

The prosecutors in both trials had earlier demanded 15-year jail sentences for the defendants. Mr. Irsyadi and Mr. Said were both given time to decide whether to lodge an appeal.

Jail sentences had already been handed down to nine GPK members or supporters this month.

Laos

Delegation Returns From IPU Meeting

BK1105065891 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] The delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] to the International Parliamentary Union [IPU], led by Viset Savengseuksa, member of the Supreme People's Assembly and vice chairman of the LPDR's IPU Committee, returned home on 8 May after attending the 85th IPU Conference held in Pyongyang, the DPRK, from 29 April to 4 May.

The vice chairman of the LPDR's IPU Committee said that the IPU conference was attended by delegations from 85 countries and 10 international organizations. The delegates to the meeting reached unanimity on the need to halt the proliferation of nuclear and other mass-destruction weapons, to create mutual trust for the security of all countries, to pursue policies to end the violent treatment of children and women, and to (?resolve) political, economic, and social problems of the present day's world. The conference endorsed resolutions on the said problems, aimed at encouraging all states to fully realize the spirit of the conference. The conference also agreed to convene the 86th IPU Conference in Santiago, Chile, in October this year.

IMF Approves Loan; 1991 Economic Plans Noted

BK1105114791 Vientiane KPL in English 0941 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Vientiane, May 11 (KPL)—The International Monetary Fund has approved a loan equivalent to SDR [special drawing rights] 8.79 million (about U.S. dollars 12 million) for the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] under the IMF's Structural Adjustment Facility (SAF). The loan supports the second annual program under the LPDR's three-year SAF arrangement, which was approved in September 1989 for a total of SDR 20.51 million (about U.S. dollar 28 million). The LPDR drew SDR 5.86 million (about U.S. dollars 8 million) to support the first annual SAF program, according to its press release.

The government's medium-term economic strategy is designed around three broad themes: to build upon the substantial progress achieved since 1985 in restructuring the economy along market-based lines, address the institutional and other weaknesses that have become increasingly evident as the program to transform the economy into a market-oriented system proceeds, and adjust to [words indistinct], adverse, external shocks, most notably the higher price of imported oil and the anticipated changes in trade and aid relationships with the Soviet Union.

Most of the elements of a market-based economic system are in place in the LPDR. The government's aim now is to further reduce its direct role in productive activity by a phased divestiture of the remaining state enterprises in all but a few designated "strategic" areas, to continue the liberalization of the foreign trade system, and to improve the environment for non-state economic activity. Laws covering contracts, property ownership, and inheritance have already been enacted, and company laws dealing with bankruptcy and liquidation, as well as the settlement of commercial disputes, will be introduced in 1991. The program also provides for the strengthening of fiscal and monetary controls through the centralization of tax collection and the development of market-based policy instruments.

The government's economic program for 1991, which the SAF loan supports, is designed to achieve real economic growth of about 5 per cent, restrain the rate of inflation—after allowing for the initial impact on prices of new excise taxes and higher utility rates—to 14 per cent, and to limit the deterioration in the current account while slightly increasing the level of international reserves.

Key policy objectives for 1991 are to reduce the budget deficit and to reorder expenditure priorities to emphasize investment through new revenue measures, curbing growth in current spending while increasing capital spending, and strengthening tax collection and budgetary control.

The LPDR joined the IMF on July 5, 1961 and its quota is SDR 29.3 million (about U.S. dollars 40 million). The LPDR's outstanding financial obligations to the IMF currently total SDR 5.86 million (about U.S. dollars 8 million).

The SAF is a concessional IMF lending facility for its poorest members that are undertaking economic reform programs to strengthen their balance of payments and improve their growth prospects.

A member's quota in the IMF determines in particular its subscription, its voting weight, its access to IMF financing, and its allocation of SDR.

Philippines

Senator Maceda on Politics, U.S. Bases

HK1105053591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0030 GMT 10 May 91

[Interview with Senator Ernesto Maceda by Joe Taruc on the "Liberty in Action" program—live; italicized passages in English]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Maceda] My current position is we should now try the younger ones. So with General Abadia and General Enrile belonging to the class of 1962, *to me, I welcome this, a younger set of generals* like General Zaabedra who was appointed last year even when he was the youngest and the 38th in the linear roster. Nobody objected because he was good. So, in short, when it comes to the 10th to 12th highest position in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the primary criteria there should not be seniority but competence and capacity. [passage omitted]

First of all, I notice that the junior officers and enlisted men in the field are not zealous because of continued graft and corruption which they see from their superiors. This is another reason why *I think with younger generals coming in, younger colonels like Colonel Julio Xavier* who was named head of the rangers which was reactivated, I think he is more acceptable to junior officers and enlisted men. That is the first and foremost. *They have to effect reforms in the military especially in the area of corruption, in the use of intelligence funds, procurement of supplies, the conversion of operating expenses, etcetera.* Second, this reactivation of rangers. Before, no matter who you ask, the rangers were the most feared *because they are specially trained and they have special equipment* like vision glass, goggles, and the like. I think General de Villa and Secretary Ramos are very much mistaken about this. After the 1 December coup, the rangers were abolished because they became emotional about that. They were embarrassed because they kept saying *up to before December 1* that there are no more problems and everything is under control. And we were bolted by the coup. *So, after that, they activated the rangers. They activated the fourth marine battalion landing team.* If you remember they even had a flag-burying ritual. Then they started charging people so they could react before the media and one of those victimized was General Brawner who really had no offense. So now, these mistakes are getting us back. *I'm glad that they finally realized their mistake and now they are activating the rangers.* [passage omitted]

[Taruc] What are your perceptions about the present political happenings, Senator Maceda?

[Maceda] You, know Joe, because it is clear to them that I am not a presidential candidate, almost all of them are inviting me or talking to me to just help them. So I already had the chance to talk to almost all of them. And those to whom I have not yet spoken have already asked for a schedule to talk to me. What comes to me after all of these conferences, *one to one, very frank talks,* it seems there are many who have already decided to run *come what may.* So my first conclusion is, if Cory Aquino does not run, at least four, probably six candidates will be running for president. This is the foremost. Second, these last few weeks, the notion of persuading Cory Aquino to run cropped up. Now the talks here are if Cory Aquino will be the candidate, the LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] aspirants may be reduced and all of them may even give way. Then at least, there would most probably be just three presidential candidates. [passage omitted]

I think their final basis, including President Aquino and those convincing her, would be, if they perceive that the opposition candidate to be supported by Imelda might win, then they may be able to persuade her [Aquino] to run. But if their perception is that the opposition is fragmented, to a point that whover will be supported by Imelda Marcos and the loyalist group will not win just the same, and they can get someone who is endorsed by the president to win, I think she does not really want to run again.

[Taruc] How will you assess the chances of the aspirants?

[Maceda] You know, Joe, a lot of surveys have been going out. [passage omitted] It is clear and consistent on all of the surveys that only one of two persons will get the top slot. If not Mirriam [Defensor Santiago], it is Joseph [Estrada].

So, in a situation where the LDP could not be unified, and they field both Ramos and Mitra, and the opposition could not be unified as well, Laurel, Enrile, or Danding and two of them run, and of course Salonga from LP [Liberal Party], and the two, Mirriam and Erap [Estrada] are there; I think either Erap or Mirriam might run away with the election even without the support of a major political party. [passage omitted]

[Taruc] What are your views Senator Maceda regarding the withdrawal of the military bases in the country?

[Maceda] My position about that, like my own politics, is based on reality *or practical, or pragmatic politics.* I always ask, when can we be ready to manage the bases? I just came from Baguio and Camp John Hay is already closed. [passage omitted] It would have been better if we were ready to continue the management without having to close it down. No more disruption. I think *within the next five years, we will not be ready to run these bases.* So, in the meantime, we cannot have whatever benefit we are receiving now. Let us not talk about the amount, *whatever it is. In the meantime,* some people will become jobless. *So, why do we have to insist on getting the bases* if we cannot yet manage them? *And I think five years.* So my position is *purely on that practical consideration. I would like to see a phaseout in five years.* Now they made it seven. So, I have to study if that can also be possible. But a 10-or 12-year extension is too much. [passage omitted]

But the question now is will the agreement be signed by September? [passage omitted] Most of the bills, simpler than that, were ratified in one or two years. So will an agreement be ratified now that everybody is campaigning? Can they immediately attend to it in the remaining six months before the end of the session? So, the question mark here is which Senate will ratify this? Is it going to be this Senate or the next? [passage omitted]

Panel Leader on Bases Demand

HK1205045791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 91

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, one of the Philippine panel leaders, explained today that the Philippines may be able to obtain its demand from the United States for $825 million annual compensation for a seven year extension of the U.S. bases in the country. According to Secretary Bengzon, although the United States is insistent on its position of $360 million annual compensation for a 10-12 year phaseout period, it seems they would respond to the Philippine panel demand. Bengzon clarified that the Philippines position is not for another extension of the U.S military facilities but for them to leave the country after seven years. Here is part of Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon's explanation:

[Begin Bengzon recording] Let us not use the term extension. *I think we should erase that from our vocabulary because there is no such thing.* What our position states is for seven years. After seven years, they will no longer be present here. Now, Mr. Armitage said, *I believe during the November talks,* first of all, they want access, meaning after that period—we say seven years, they say 10—they want to have access. At first, what we understood from this word access is *like any English language dictionary.* For example, *if your mother in law has access to your house,* this means she can go to your house. However, it appeared that their definition of access is presence. Which means that your mother in law will not only be visiting but in fact staying in your house. This is not permissible by us. There will be problems if this is the case. So, we are saying that this will not be allowed. [end recording]

Aquino Favors Fisheries Agreement With Taiwan

HK1005154391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] President Aquino is in favor of a negotiation with Taiwanese officials which could lead to a fisheries operation agreement. The agreement is aimed at avoiding disputes between the Philippines and Taiwan. The feud between the two countries is in relation to the continuous violation by Taiwanese fishermen of Philippine territorial waters. Tanny Rodriguez reports:

[Begin recording] The proposed Fisheries Cooperation Agreement originated from Representative Jose de Venecia. The president said the government is open to this proposal and is now taking action to implement this without violating its one-China policy. She said that the creation of a South China Sea fisheries disputes committee is a preliminary action leading to that goal. Recently, Senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani proposed that the executive office should establish a shuttle diplomacy with the People's Republic of China and Taiwan to pursue bilateral relations between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan and the Philippines.

Meanwhile, Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos has reportedly sent one of his deputies, Roberto Lucila, to Taiwan to hold meetings with the country's officials to resolve the problems brought about by the arrest of several Taiwanese fishermen by the Philippine Coast Guard recently. [end recording]

Honasan, Others Said To Consider Surrendering

Aquino Confirms Talks

HK1305090291 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 13 May 91

[By Dick Sinchongco from Malacanang]

[Text] President Cory Aquino has confirmed the ongoing negotiations between the government and the military rebels headed by fugitive former Colonel Gregorio Honasan. The president said she was aware of Honasan's indication that he would surrender which was sent to Armed Forces chief of staff Lieutenant General Lisandro Abadia. However, the president stressed that any reconciliation has to be based on justice. Abadia disclosed that the indication from Honasan stated he is ready to talk about surrendering to the government.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet Cluster on Security and Political Development is set to discuss the surrender indications by several high-ranking rebel soldiers.

Armed Forces Chief Lisandro Abadia was in Malacanang earlier and believed to have informed the president of the latest development in the negotiations.

Ramos Confirms Talks on Surrender

HK1305080191 Quezon City MALAYA in English 13 May 91 p 1

[By Noel Bartolome with Marie Rose Feliciano]

[Text] Negotiations for the surrender of cashiered Lt Col Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, and four other military rebel leaders are going on, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said yesterday.

Ramos told Pangasinan reporters the other rebel leaders who are in touch with government emissaries are Commodore Domingo Calajate, Lt Col Eduardo Kapunan, Navy Capt Felix Turingan, and Constabulary Capt Andy Gauran.

Earlier, Armed Forces chief Lt Gen Lisandro Abadia said Honasan had sent surrender feelers. He said he could not offer Honasan amnesty because the grant of clemency lies solely in the hands of Congress.

Ramos refused to give more details on the negotiations.

Honasan, Turingan and Kapunan led the failed August 1987 coup. Calajate, at that time chief of the Logistics Command, led the rebel troops who seized Camp Aguinaldo during the December 1989 coup.

Honasan was arrested in 1988 in a Pasig townhouse after going underground following the failed 1987 coup attempt.

Honasan escaped a year later from the prison ship BRP [Republic of the Philippines' Ship] Andres Bonifacio anchored on Manila Bay with the help of his Navy guards.

Most of the leaders of the rebel groups Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] and the Young Officers Union have been captured or have surrendered. They include Lt Co Victor Batac, Col Alexander Noble, Lt Col Billy Bibit, and Maj Abraham Purugganan.

Honasan carries a P5 million [peso] price on his head, while Calajate, Kapunan, and Turingan have P1 million each.

Military intelligence reports said Calajate has replaced Honasan as chairman of RAM executive committee.

Honasan reportedly got the blame for the rebel soldiers' recent blunders, including the October 1990 uprising led by Noble in Northern Mindanao.

CPP Threatens To Attack Police Stations

HK1305102491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0900 GMT 13 May 91

[By Jim Belasano]

[Text] The Philippine National Police [PNP] chief, Director General Cesar Nazareno today ordered all his men to be prepared against a threat of attacks by the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA]. General Nazareno issued the order after uncovering a directive from the CPP instructing all its armed men to attack all police stations around the country, particularly those in remote areas. Nazareno, together with his staff, went to Region 10 to assess the result of counterinsurgency operations, the major responsibility of the PNP.

At a command conference, Senior Superintendent Armando Agbayani reported to Nazareno that the PNP men and Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit members have been the favorite targets of communist rebels in the area. At the same conference, Chief Superintendent Honesto Bumanlag, PNP operations director, reported to General Nazareno that his office has discovered new activities by the NPA, not only on Mindanao but also in other places in Western, Eastern, and Central Visayas.

Nazareno blamed some commanders in Region 10 for failure to rid the barangays of NPA communist influence despite the full support given them by the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame.

NPA Declares 'All-Out' War Against NBI

HK1005031991 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] The New People's Army [NPA] has declared an all-out war against the men and officers of the National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] in Naga City. This is in relation to the NBI abduction of two communist rebels, who are under Comrade Benjie, an NPA leader in Bicol region. Earlier, Comrade Benjie admitted that his group was responsible for bombing the Naga City NBI office. The NPA leader also said the NBI kidnapped two women and an 8-year-old boy several months ago, but have not yet returned them. However, the NBI denied the accusations, claiming that there is no Comrade Benjie operating in Bicol.

Meanwhile, in Negros Oriental, the Philippine National Police [PNP] arrested eight suspected NPA members, including six women and a girl. According to a report received by PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno, those arrested were among the over 24 NPA members whom the 336th PNP Company had encountered earlier. The women and the 11-year old girl were allegedly in charge of the food for the communist rebels whom the police encountered.

Aquino Rejects Pressure Plan on Marcos Wealth

HK1105080191 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] President Aquino rejected point blank a proposal by Philippine Commission on Good Government [PCGG] Chairman David Castro to use political pressure on the recovery of about $5-million time deposits by the Marcos family and its cronies in Switzerland.

In a press statement, the chief executive said her dialogue with the PCGG officials yielded positive results. According to the president, this will help the government in the immediate recovery of the ill-gotten wealth of the Marcoses. The president's statement was in reaction to

Castro's proposal that the executive and the legislative branches should use political pressure and seek assistance from the United Nations for a speedier recovery of the Marcos' Swiss banks deposits.

Thailand

Press Details Events on Counter-Coup Rumors

BK1205023691 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 May 91 p 4

[From the "Inprint" column]

[Text] The political temperature which had been on the warm side suddenly shot up to near boiling point on Friday, May 3, when Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong ordered all the three armed forces to go on full alert and stay in their barracks.

MATICHON WEEKLY said the orders were issued because Gen Sunthon had received reports that a group had been planning a counter-coup. There were unusual movements of troops in Saraburi and Lop Buri provinces.

The leader of the alleged countercoup attempt was a retired general who had played a high role in politics and still has some influence in the Army. His son-in-law, a colonel in Saraburi, was to arrange the manpower, according to the reports. Financial support was to come from a former politician accused of being unusually rich.

The first four "unusually rich" politicians named by the anti-graft committee were Chat Thai Party advisory chairman Gen Praman Adireksan, Chat Thai deputy leader Pramuan Saphawasu, Social Action Party Secretary-General Montri Phongphanit and Muan Chon Party leader Chaloem Yubamrung. However, just two days prior to the announcment of the list, it was widely rumoured that Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan, the founder of the Special Warfare unit in Lop Buri, might be included in the list.

As leader of the Ratsadon Party, Gen Thianchai served as deputy prime minister and education minister in the Chatchai Government. He was upset when he was named as one of 25 politicians to be investigated by an anti-graft committee and had his assets frozen.

The full alert was later lifted after Gen Sunthon checked the situation and decided that the discontented faction did not have a realistic chance of success.

In fact, those who had lost power because of the February 23 coup had been trying to undermine the National Peace-keeping council (NPKC) by inciting state enterprise unionists against plans to exclude them from the Labour Relations Act and by attempts to draw international labour organisations into the conflict.

Rumours were circulated in the Stock Exchange of Thailand, which is particularly sensitive to politics, that there was a serious split between Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and the NPKC; that the Premier was to fire Army chief Gen Suchinda Khraphrayun; and that Air Force chief ACM Kaset Rotchananin was joining hands with Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong against Gen Suchinda and Gen Itsaraphong Nunpakdi.

There were also serious efforts to get the Government to abolish martial law, and when this succeeded the attempt at a "counter-coup" was immediately launched, although the instigators probably forgot that Gen Sunthon used to be commander of the Special Warfare Centre in Lop Buri, while the present commander, Gen Kachon Ramanwong, is also a member of the Chulachomklao Academy Class 5 which now dominates key positions in the Army.

Indeed, there is little going there that the NPKC would not know about.

Commerce Minister Sends Letter to USTR

BK1305020791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 May 91 p B3

["Full text" of letter from Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on to US Trade Representative Carla Hills on intellectual property rights protection—sent "recently"]

[Text] Dear Ambassador Hills:

I have the honour to refer to a series of discussions between representatives of the Government of the United States of America (US Governemnt) and the Royal Thai Government (Thai Government) concerning the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in Thailand, the most recent consultation taking place on April 22-23.

I regret that despite our good faith efforts to accommodate the concerns of the US Government, there are certain points in the US proposal which the Thai Government is not able to accept without unduly compromising its national interest. To cite a few examples:

1. The points regarding the Thai Government using its best efforts to secure enactment of the Patent Act Amendment bill and the Trademark Act Amendment bill would be encroaching upon the privilege of the legislative branch of the government.

2. The acceptance of certain provisions such as transitional protection, extension of patent protection to cover all inventions without exception, and the strict limitations on the use of compulsory licensing could be prejudicial to Thailand's position in the Uruguay Round negotiations and could commit Thailand to a level of obligations higher than that which would eventually obtain internationally.

However, as a result of the discussions and in recognition of international trends in the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights, the Thai Government is determined to take the following steps as set forth below.

A. Patents

The Thai Government agrees to provide the following levels of protection under its patent law:

1. Patentable Subject Matter

Patents shall be available for all inventions, whether products or processes, in all fields of technology, which are new, involve an inventive step, and which are industrially applicable, except for the following inventions:

(1) animals, plants or naturally occuring microorganism;

(2) scientific or mathematical rules or theories;

(3) computer programmes;

(4) diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical methods for treatment of humans or animals;

(5) inventions that are contrary to public order of morality, or public health of welfare.

2. Rights Conferred

A patent shall confer the right to prevent others not having the patent owner's consent from importing, making, using or selling the subject matter of the patent. In the case of a patented process, the patent shall confer the right to prevent others not having the patent owner's consent from using that process and from using, selling or importing at loans the prexincl [as published] directly obtained by that process.

3. Term of Protection

The term of protection shall be at least 20 years from the filing of the patent application.

4. Compulsory Licenses.

a. A compulsory license may only be granted for the following purposes:

(i) To remedy a practice deterained after judicial or administrative process to be anticompetitive, or

(ii) To address, only during its existence, a declared national emergency.

b. In addition, the following conditions shall apply:

(i) Compulsory licenses shall be non-exclusive and non-assignable except with that part of the enterprise which exploits such licenses.

(ii) The payment of fair and available remuneration to the patent owner taking into account the economic value of a license shall be required, except for compulsory licenses to remedy practices determined after judicial or administrative process to be anticompetitive.

(iii) Each case involving the possible grant of a compulsory license shall be considered on its individual writs.

(iv) Any compulsory license shall be revolved around the circumstances which led to its granting cease to exist, taking into account the legitimate interests of the patent owner and of the license. The continued existence of these circumstances shall be reviewed upon the request of the patent owner.

(v) Decisions to grant or to continue compulsory licenses shall be subject to review by an independent, higher body.

(vi) Importation of the patented product or, in the case of a process patent, the product directly resulting from use of the patented process, shall be considered to be exploitation of the patent in Thailand.

5. Pricing Information

Collection of information on the pricing of patented products shall be done only in conformity with Thailand's Anti-Monopoly law and shall give due recognition to the exclusive rights provided under the patent law.

6. Government Use

Use of a patented invention by the Thai Government shall be limited to public, noncommercial purposes, and shall entitle the patent owner to payment of compensation that is commensurate with the market value of a license.

7. Revocation

An opportunity for judicial review of any decison to revoke or forfeit a patent shall be available.

8. The Thai Government will summit for enactment the Patent Act Amendment bill to the legislature by August 31, 1991. Implementation of the amendments to the patent law shall take place no later than 180 days after enactment.

B. Copyright Enforcement

The Thai Government in compliance with its laws and regulations will provide effective enforcement of intellectual property rights, in particular of rights in copyrighted works. To that end, the Thai Government undertakes the following:

1. The relevant Thai authorities will carry out raids promptly, including night raids as appropriate, in response to complaints. Such authorities shall use all means available under Thai laws, regulations and procedures in conducting such raids and gathering evidence, including seizure of machinery, equipment and other relevant material connected to or use in infringing activity.

2. Decisions on prosecution of cases will be made promptly and the reasons for any decision not to prosecute will be communicated to the complainant. Prosecution of cases will be conducted expeditiously.

3. There will be improved coordination of activities between the Thai Government agencies and complainants in enforcement actions.

4. The relevant Thai authorities, i.e. the Police Department, the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Education, and the Public Prosecution Office, will conduct an antipiracy campaign to enhance public awareness of the importance of copyright protection in Thailand.

C. Trademarks

1. Trademarks which are considered well-known trademarks will be protected against registration by third parties in Thailand.

2. The period in which to ledge appeals of administrative decisions under the law will be at least 90 days.

3. Registerd trademarks will be protected for a period of at least three years of non-use.

4. Appeals to a court will be available from the decisions of the Board of Trademarks in certain cases of ex parto actions.

5. The Thai Government will submit for enactment the amendments to the trademark law necessary to provide the levels of protection specified in this letter no later than May 31, 1991. Implementation of the amendments to the trademark law shall take place no later than 90 days after enactment.

D. Consultations

It is understood that the Thai Government and the US Government will consult promptly on request on matters relating to the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights. In particular, both Governments agree to hold detailed consulation no later than June 1, 1991, on revisions to the Thai copyright law with respect to protecting computer software as a literary work, inclusion of a definition of public performance in the copyright law, providing translation rights in a manner consistent with the Berne Convention (pari 1971), provision of exclusive rental rights for sound recordings and the provision of strengthened penalties for infringement of copyright.

In light of the commitments made by the Thai Government in this letter, the Thai Government expects that the US Government will agree not to identify Thailand at this time as a priority foreign country under section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended by the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988.

Yours sincerely, Amaret Sila-on Minister of Commerce

Deputy Premier on Joint U.S. Trade Conflict

BK1305102391 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai
13 May 91 p 6

["Interview" with Deputy Prime Minister Sano Unakun by unidentified interviewer; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Interviewer] After Thailand has been listed by the United States as a country to face trade retaliatory measures in Article 301 of the U.S. Trade Act, what will the Thai Government's guidelines be to solve the problem?

[Sano] Article 301 has not yet been implemented against us. There are steps for negotiations between Thailand and the United States on the issue. For the present stage, we will have to make preparations for the negotiations to find ways to avoid future possible problems. We still have some time. Within one month, we will have to begin some talks with the the United States. Permanent secretaries of all the ministries involved have been assigned to meet with each other to find Thailand's most appropriate stand on the issue before proposing them to the Cabinet for final approval.

[Interviewer] The United States has tried to push Thailand to amend its copyright bill and has stated clearly that Thailand must make amendments to the law by August.

[Sano] We cannot direct the National Legislative Assembly to what extent it must complete its task. In practice, once a proposal for amendments of the law has been made, whether amendments will be made or not is another story. We will not interfere at all with the Assembly. We will have to find details of the country's stand for the negotiations with the United States.

[Interviewer] Regarding amending the copyright law, there has been extensive criticism that Thailand should not amend its law to please the United States.

[Sano] We will have to take into account the commitments of both sides. There are concerns over possible impacts on each side. Finally, we will have to consider what will be beneficial to our country.

[Interviewer] Is there any possible way for Thailand to avoid Article 301?

[Sano] Maybe. But we have not yet reached the stage that it is implemented against us. It would depend on the outcome of the negotiations.

[Interviewer] Is it possible for the Thai-U.S. aviation rights to be linked to the Thai-U.S. trade talks?

[Sano] Possibly, various angles can be discussed in negotiations.

[Interviewer] Could you please tell about the government's policy on this issue?

[Sano] How could I disclose everything about the negotiations at the international level?. It might adversely affect the negotiations. [passage omitted]

Board to Discuss Pharmaceutical Patent Issue

BK1105123491 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
9 May 91 p 23

[Text] Public Health Minister Phairot Ningsanon opined that any Thai protection of foreign pharmaceutical patents should be restricted to new pharmaceutical formulas and manufacturing process for a maximum period of 10 years. He was also of the opinion that such amendment to the Patent Act should be effected in the form of a transitory provision covering a periof of five to 10 years.

Meanwhile, a report from the committee studying the pharmaceutical patent problem said that the National Peacekeeping Council's advisory board comprising the prime minister and various other ministers would meet at Sanam Suapa at 1100 A.M. today to discuss mounting U.S. pressure for amendment to the Thai Patent Act of 1979. The objective of the meeting was unknown.

Effects of Patent Amendment Concerns Academic

BK1205144591 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai
9 May 91 p 15

[Text] Assistant Professor Samli Chaidi, member of the Intellectual Property Study Committee of Chulalongkon University's Social Research Institute on 8 May revealed the results of his committee's research on possible losses to Thailand arising from an amendment to the Patent Act. The study is based on 1988 statistics.

In 1988, 25,159 modern medicine formulas were registered with the Food and Drug Administration. A sum of 23,116 or 91.87 percent, had expired patents, while 2,043 or 8.12 percent, had valid patents. Of those with valid patents, 776 formulas or 1.04 percent, were imported by international companies, while 1,015 formulae or 4.04 percent, were produced by 111 Thai national firms. Among those produced by Thai companies, 42 formulae had patents registered in eight countries, namely, the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, France, Belgium, Switzerland, and Sweden.

Assistant Professor Samli said the cost of medicine imported and produced here under the 25,159 formulas amounted to 10,050 million baht, including 1,421 million baht or 14.1 percent for patented medicines, and 8,629 million baht or 95.9 percent, for medicines with expired patents. The drug consumption in Thailand during 1988 was 40,102 million baht or an average of 730 baht per person per year.

Based on the differential between prices of medicine here and those sold in the United States and coupled with the monopoly value, the additional value of patented drugs is estimated at 24.2 percent of the total cost of imported and locally produced drugs. That is to say, the total cost of drugs imported and produced here in 1988 would have increased from 10,050 million to 17,255 million baht or 71.7 percent higher. That means if Thailand had paid for all patent fees, the yearly average consumption would have increased from 730 baht to 1,253 baht per person.

"Based on the annual rate of increase of 71.7 percent, this means the total value of local drug consumption last year could have been 95,180 million baht or 1,689 baht per person, instead of 55,434 million baht or 984 baht per person. With the trend of new medicines being imported into the country and with prices increasing all the time Assistant Professor Samli asked how this development would affect the quality of life of Thais.

Foreign Trade Official on U.S. Duty on Rice

BK1105042691 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 May 91 p 22

[Text] American farm groups have asked the US Commerce Department to review the countervailing duty (CVD) on rice imports, particularly those from Thailand.

Foreign Trade Policy Division Director Bunthipha Simasakun said yesterday the farm groups had filed a petition with the Commerce Department asking it to review its decision early this year to identify Thailand as providing subsidies for its rice exports at a rate of 0.35 percent of their value, down from 0.82 percent last year. She said Washington therefore decided not to levy a 0.35 percent CVD on Thai shipments as the 0.35 percent subsidy rate was below the minimum rate of 0.5 percent.

The Commerce Department has the right to revise its ruling each year if Washington finds rice imports from other countries are likely to damage local farmers.

The US collected 0.82 percent CVD on rice imports from Thailand for many years, but the latest revision means Thai exports will not be subject to CVD.

Mrs Bunthipha said American farmers were dissatisfied with the ruling as they believed the Thai Government was providing farmers with millions of baht in subsidies through such methods as the mortgage scheme, packing credit facilities and the Commerce Ministry's intervention scheme.

She said US farm groups had asked for a review of rice imports and this was now being carried out.

Thai rice and rice product exports to the US last year were worth around 1,600 million baht, equal to 30,000 tons of rice.

Meanwhile, US officials are due to arrive in Thailand on Monday to gather information on the local threaded wire rope industry before deciding whether to recommend the imposition of CVD, according to Mrs. Bunthipha.

The US has announced a preliminary CVD rate of 0.4 percent on threaded wire rope and is scheduled to announce a final rate next month.

Mrs Bunthipha said the result of CVD determination would not have an adverse effect on the Thai industry as the US already collects a 2.94 percent anti-dumping duty on threaded wire rope.

1991 Rice Exports Expected at 3.6 Million Tons

BK1205062291 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] It has been suggested that farmers turn to grow more quality rice to enable the country to earn more income from rice exports. The suggestion was made by Vice President of the Rice Exporters Association Mr. Waraphong Phitphongsa, who said that demand for quality rice has been on the rise in international market.

Mr. Waraphong said the dumping of rice in the world market by the United States is not worrisome as the country has only 2.5 million tons of rice for export and its rice has still been sold at high prices. He said Thai rice exports would not be adversely affected by the move because Thailand has a large number of customers in more than 100 countries worldwide. According to Mr. Waraphong, exports of Thai rice this year are expected to be 3.6 million tons due to the scarcity of rain.

The Department of Internal Trade reported that between 1 January and 7 May this year, Thailand exported 1.4 million tons of rice.

Ministry Role Sought in Rice Sale to Iraq

BK1305004391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 May 91 p 17

[Text] Thailand's eight major rice exporters, fearing the sale of an extra 200,000 tons of rice to Iraq will increase that country's unsettled debt, have proposed the new deal be handled by the Commerce Ministry and carried out on a government-to-government basis.

The eight exporters—Chaiyaphon Rice, Sun Hua Seng, Huai Chuan Rice, Capital Rice, Hong Yia Seng, Seng Thong, Sayam Rice and Kit Phon—said although the Grain Board of Iraq had offered to settle the 1989 debt of 1,700 million baht after the new shipment, there still was a high risk in selling the 200,000 tons of 5 per cent white rice to Baghdad on one-year credit terms.

This was because Baghdad's financial problems had not yet been solved, a Rice Exporters' Association source told BUSINESS POST.

Iraq faced severe shortages of grains and foodstuffs as the United Nations Security Council has not ended trade sanctions. The U.N. has, however, agreed to unfreeze some of Baghdad's assets to enable it to buy certain essential imports.

The source said that at last week's meeting of the eight rice exporters, after the delegation led by Chaiyaphon Rice managing director returned from Amman, some were against selling 200,000 tons of rice to Iraq on one-year credit terms.

They want the 1989 debt settled before delivering any more rice since payment has been put off repeatedly.

The exporters are worried they might have to buy high-grade rice in the local market for the deal, which could cause them to suffer heavy losses.

Although the price agreed to by Baghdad is a high $326 per ton, there are uncertainties in the domestic market, which could lead to sudden price increases.

Some of the exporters suggested the Commerce Ministry step in and help.

They said the Government should help them settle the old debt because the 1989 rice shipments were made in line with government policies and recommendations aimed at shoring up local rice prices.

They said as the ministry had decided to intervene in the local market by buying high-grade rice, it should sell this rice to Iraq on a government-to-government basis. This will help the Government release its rice stocks.

"It is better for the Commerce Ministry to handle this rice deal with Baghdad as the Government is already providing long credit terms for foreign buyers under government-to-government contracts. At the same time, this should ensure that Baghdad will pay for the deal," the source said.

He said it also would be easier for the ministry to seek the UN Security Council's permission to sell rice to Iraq, whose people are suffering severe food shortages.

But the source said no formal request had been sent to the ministry as the exporters were unsure as to whether the ministry would consider it and feared criticism from other groups concerned with the rice trade.

He said that without the ministry's assistance, the eight rice exporters would not be able to handle the new deal with Iraq as the risks were too high.

Anan on Preferential Trade Treatment for Laos

BK1105031491 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 May 91 p A1

[Excerpt] Thailand will introduce a trade preferential system on imports from Laos, strengthen cooperation for power production and remove obstacles to border trade with its landlocked neighbour, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said.

Anan said that the trade preferential system would be similar to the US Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) which enables goods from developing countries to compete in the US market. Under the GSP-type system, a variety of imports from Laos would enjoy low tariff rates, he said.

"We attach great importance to strengthening Thai-Lao relations. I have instructed Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin to spare no effort in allaying the deep rooted suspicions between the two countries," he said, referring to frequent border rows in the past.

He added that under the interim rule by his government, expected to end late this year, the Thai government would take steps to cement bilateral ties with Laos. This would include acceleration of the previous projects for the construction of bridges across the Thai-Lao border, the possible Thai participation in a joint venture with Laos for electricity production under the framework of the Mekong Interim Committee's projects to develop the water resources of the lower basin of the waterway.

Laos is working on the Nam Thuen 2 dam project on the Lao side close to the border for producing electricity. The previous administration of Gen Chatchai Chunhawan had expressed interest in entering into the joint venture in the Nam Thuen projects with Laos.

Anan, speaking in general terms, said Thailand is ready for such a joint venture and would purchase all the electricity to be genrated in Laos.

The premier also voiced support for the initiative of Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin in accepting a long standing call by Vientiane for a joint venture to replace the Express Transportation Organization (ETO) in transporting goods from Bangkok to the Thai-Lao border. Asa reportedly signed the agreement during a two-day visit to Laos this week. The Thai and the Lao side will each hold 50 percent of the equity in the joint venture and the Thai government has left it to Laos to choose the Thai partner for the firm, he said.

"The problem has been with us for decades. It's time to settle it," he said, apparently responding to criticism that the Thai Foreign Ministry made hasty concessions to Laos.

Anan said steps are being taken to remove all restrictions to the growth of border trade with Laos. [passage omitted]

Sunthon on Unions; Suchinda on Chatchai Return

BK1205015291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 May 91 p 3

[Text] National Peace Keeping Council [NPKC] chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong yesterday said the council will have to consult the Government about any possible lifting of a ban on trade union stopwork meetings.

He was responding to a move by labour leaders who want NPKC announcement No. 54 lifted since announcements No. 7, 19 and 20, forbidding political gatherings and activities, have already been revoked by the National Legislative Assembly on Thursday.

Announcement No. 54 bans any trade union from stopping work or calling any meeting of members that would have the same effect as a work stoppage.

Gen Sunthon said he does not yet know anything about the call but if one is made to revoke the announcement he will have to consult the NPKC and the Government before being able to make further comment.

Asked about moves within the Chat Thai Party to have Gen Chatchai Chunhawan return from his "extended holiday" in England to lead the party at the next general election, Gen Sunthon declined to comment, saying this is a matter for Chat Thai and not himself.

But Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun said Gen Chatchai can return to Thailand and play politics if he wishes.

Responding to a reporter's question whether or not Gen Chatchai will be allowed to return home from England and to pursue active political life, Gen Suchinda said:

"I don't see there is any problem and there is no law which prohibits him (Gen Chatchai). He can return. It is his own business."

Gen Suchinda scoffed at rumours the Army chief might join a political party, the Thahan Party, which is wooing his support.

"It is all what people say. Who will know better than I? I have said many times that I will not get involved in politics," he said.

Meanwhile, Supreme Command spokesman Gen Narudon Detpradiyut said the military has not yet become involved with the United Nations team that arrived in Bangkok yesterday to oversee the ceasefire in Cambodia.

However, the military has been preparing an area in Prachin Buri's Watthana Nakhon District and at U-Taphao air base to receive such teams and delegations so they do not have to land at commercial airports.

The work involving the ceasefire team is a matter for the Foreign Ministry and the military will act mainly as a facilitator, Gen Narudon said.

Vietnam

VNA Cites U.S. Senator Kerry's Remarks

BK1105152091 Hanoi VNA in English 1250 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 11 — According to a REUTER report from Washington, US Senator John Kerry appeared on American TV Thursday, recalling that Vietnamese officials say they will give families of American military men still listed as missing in the Vietnam War access to records and even freer travel to search for clues. Senator John Kerry recently paid a visit to Vietnam.

John Kerry said that the Vietnamese promised US families even freer travel than expected so that the live sighting reports and the other kinds of doubts that are expressed by many families can really be followed up on as rapidly as possible.

A VOA broadcast quoted the US Senator as stating on this occasion that this unprecedented gesture from Vietnam is an opportunity to help end the 20-year-old wound of the MIA families. He called on the Bush Administration to positively respond to this gesture.

REUTER quoted John Kerry as affirming : "I don't believe the Vietnam government is holding anybody." He went on: "I think we have to put to the test the question of whether it's a really new effort by the Vietnamese to move towards better relations with us."

SRV, U.S. Specialists Hold Meeting on MIA's

BK1105153691 Hanoi VNA in English 1315 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 11—Vietnamese and American specialists held a meeting here on May 9-11 in order to step up the settlement of the issue of Americans missing in action in the Vietnam War in line with the orientation agreed upon at a [word indistinct] meeting between Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and the US President's special envoy, Gen. John Vessey.

The [words indistinct] on an early establishment of an American MIA office in Hanoi and a plan of joint activities in the coming period.

The US side held that the meeting was useful and constructive.

The American specialists left here for home today.

Commentary Views Opposition to U.S. Embargo

BK1005035291 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 9 May 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States should adopt a policy of friendship instead of hostility toward Vietnam, [word indistinct] Senator John McCain, former American prisoner of war in Vietnam, said at a hearing of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Representatives of the U.S. business circles attending the hearing also expressed their support for the normalization of trade relations with Vietnam. Mr. (U. Upsee), in the name of the American Chamber of Commerce, called on the U.S. Congress to lift its trade restriction of nonstrategic goods with Vietnam and invest in Vietnam. Mr. (Upsee) pointed out that by now the United States is the only country that maintains its trade embargo against Vietnam. He then expressed the hope that the lifting of the embargo will help speed up both the economic progress as well as foreign policy of the United States. He said: The maintenance of those restrictions will only prevent American companies from entering the hopeful Vietnam market.

Also speaking at this Senate hearing, Senator Murkowski requested the administration to deal separately with the Cambodian issue and the Vietnam issue. Earlier, Senator Murkowski presented at the U.S. Senate a bill calling on the administration to lift the embargo which has been imposed on Vietnam for 16 years. Speaking before presenting the bill, Senator Murkowski affirmed that the bill is aimed at putting an end to economic isolation against both the Vietnamese and the American peoples. He stressed that the embargo is only detrimental to U.S. economic interests in the region and prevented American companies from participating with other countries in carrying out economic and business activities in Vietnam.

Senator Murkowski held that it is time the U.S. should establish trade relations with Vietnam and put an end to its trade embargo against Vietnam.

At recent hearings on security in Southeast Asia of the subcommittee for Asian affairs of the house foreign relations committee, Mr (Raybote), vice president of the [word indistinct] company, on behalf of American business circles, pointed out the desire for an early lifting of the embargo so that the United States would enter the Vietnam market once Vietnam has opened its door for foreign investment.

Meanwhile, Senator Richard Lugar said that it is time to have a new way of thinking on Vietnam. In an article carried in the American paper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, Senator Lugar, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, held that the United States should lift its embargo and normalize relations with Vietnam.

VNA Profiles Amerasian Emigrating to U.S.

BK1205072691 Hanoi VNA in English 0640 GMT 12 May 91

["Sunday Feature: Born To Have Two Homes"—VNA headline]

[Text] Cao Quang Thanh wept facing the lens of a BBC television camera, as he was about to leave Vietnam for the United States under the Orderly Departure Programme (ODP). He said, not only in reply to the reporter's questions but also to those surrounding him:

"I am the son of two countries. The United States is my paternal and Vietnam, my maternal home. I am very said to leave my motherland".

Thanh was born in 1972, knowing neither his father nor mother. An unknown Vietnamese woman found him in garbage dump when he was just a few days old. From the time his adoptive mother died when he was five years of age, Thanh led the life of a vagrant, trying all ways and means to make a living. Recently, on learning of the ODP, which also covers Amerasian children, he applied for an interview and was accepted by the American side. He was then admitted to a reception centre for Amerasian children in anticipation of an early departure. The Vietnamese staff of the centre helped him make the necessary preparations for starting a new life.

There are a very large number of Amerasian children in Vietnam, who are victims of an aggressive war and have experienced much suffering. Many of them have left the country before Thanh under this programme jointly agreed on by the US and Vietnamese Governments.

The reception centre in Ho Chi Minh City, where Thanh and many of his friends are living, has been operating for the past year. People who visit it for the first time are often surprised, not only by its imposing size, but by its serenity. "In the past, I visualized this centre as being a refugee camp with corrugated-iron roofs, barbed-wire fences and police guards, but in fact it's quite different," declared a foreigner after visiting the centre. The Amerasian children and their relatives live in well-furnished rooms and have a dining-hall, class-rooms, a recreation centre and a football field.

Mr. Doan Van Tuan, deputy director of the centre, said:

"In 1990, about 1,800 Amerasian children and their relatives (on average, each child was accompanied by three family members) left this centre for the States. At present, about 1,400 Amerasian children and their relatives are living here, 400 of them orphans who need long-term accommodation. The US side plans a ten-day stay at the centre for each Amerasian child while waiting for interviews and another ten-day stay prior to departure. But in fact, many Amerasian families are in such difficult circumstances that the centre's authorities have to let them stay much longer. As well, the programme only provides for their food and accommodation. In the interests of the inmates' future, the Vietnamese side has established language and vocational training programmes in order to assist them in adapting better to their new lives".

Father Richard Ryscavage, a member of a delegation from the migration and refugee service of the US National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said after a visit that he would tell the American people what he saw at the centre and about its positive programmes aimed a helping Amerasian children and their relatives. During his visit, Father Ryscavage and other members of the delegation met inmates and inspected their bed-rooms, living areas and class-rooms where they are taught English, tailoring, hairdressing and other trades.

An Amerasian women, a former inmate at the centre now settled in the United States, wrote thus in a letter to the centre's authorities :

"Thank you very much for kindly helping my child and myself over the past few months. Boundless is the love given by the Vietnamese to me, a daughter of mixed blood. However I may reside, my soul will always and eternally be with the land of Vietnam. I promise to bring up my child as a useful member of society, so that in future it will return to its maternal home—vietnam—and be able to do something to help the country".

Do Muoi Returns to Hanoi From USSR

BK1005154291 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] After paying a working visit to USSR at the invitation of the USSR government, on 10 May Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and other comrades in the delegation have returned to Hanoi.

Greeting the delegation on its arrival were Vo Chi Cong, Vo Van Kiet, Nguyen Co Thach, Dong Sy Nguyen, Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Khanh, Hoang Duc Son, Dinh Nho Liem, Tran Xuan Gia, and USSR temporary representative (Bronlin) in Vietnam.

Results of Visit Reviewed

BK1005153791 Hanoi VNA in English 1348 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10—"The working visit to the Soviet Union by Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Vietnam Do Muoi was an important step in perfecting new forms and methods of the Vietnam-USSR cooperation in economic and other areas."

This was stated in an announcement released at the end of chairman Do Muoi's visit to the Soviet Union from May 5-9, 1991. The announcement said: "Chairman Do Muoi and Prime Minister V.S. Pavlov had wide-range discussions on the Vietnmese-Soviet cooperation and agreed that the cooperation between the two countries has seen great prospects.

Both sides stressed that the positive movements in their economic and commercial relations and the increase of Vietnam's goods supplise to the Soviet Union has generally facilitated the development of their economic ties on the basis of balance and mutual benefits. The two sides affirmed the importance of the intergovernmental agreements on their economic and commercial cooperation in 1991 and on the transformation of their economic and commercial relations into a new mechanism signed in January 1991. They also discussed concrete measures to ensure the implementation of these agreements.

They agreed to speed up the renewal of the coordination mechanism in economic-commercial activities, thus facilitating the development of the economic relations between Vietnam and various Soviet republics and of the direct economic commercial ties between organzations of Vietnam and the Soviet Union. They discussed the questions of Vietnam's debt servicing for the Soviet Union and programmes of cooperation, including Vietnam's supplies of foodgrain and foodstuff and other traditional export items for the Soviet Union.

Both sides agreed that in the near future they would completely amend the provisions of cooperation in oil and gas exploitation in Vietnam's southern continental shelf within the framework of the "Vietsovpetro" joint enterprise aimed at raising the efficiency of the enterprise on the basis of mutual benefit. They also examined the orientations of cooperation in education, culture, science, technology, labour, etc.

Referring to international questions, Chairman Do Muoi spoke highly of the Soviet Union's efforts for disarmament, peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere. The Soviet side voiced its support for Vietnam's efforts to make Southeast Asia a zone of peace, stability and cooperation. It also expressed its support for the process of normalising relations between Vietnam and China and between Vietnam and the United States.

With regard to the Cambodian question, both sides affirmed their desire for active contributions to the search for an overall political solution to this question. They stressed that favorable conditions are being created for the resumption of the Cambodia talks aimed at accelerating the settlement of this question. Vietnam and the Soviet Union welcomed the fact that the warring Khmer factions had agreed to the voluntary ceasefire from the first of May this year and held that it is important that such a cease-fire must be consolidated by the cessation of foreign military supplies to all the Khmer factions".

Chairman Do Muoi and his party returned to Hanoi today. They were welcomed by Vo Chi Cong, Vo Van Kiet, Nguyen Co Thach and other senior Vietnamese party and state officials. Soviet Charge d'Affaires A.S. Voronin was also on hand.

Nguyen Van Linh, Gorbachev Talks Viewed

BK1105165791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] According to the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY in Moscow, on 11 May Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of our party Central Committee, held talks in the Kremlin with Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet president.

The talks took place in an atmosphere imbued with fraternal comradeship. The two leaders informed each other of the situation of their countries and the activities of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and the CPSU, and exchanged views on the guidelines and measures to renovate and strengthen the relations of traditional cooperation and friendship between the two parties and the two countries as well as on the international issues of mutual concern.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh informed Comrade Gorbachev of the important achievements initially scored by the Vietnamese people in the renovation process initiated by the CPV's Sixth Congress. At the same time, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh also informed his counterpart of the preparations for the upcoming CPV Seventh Congress, which aims to continually and comprehensively develop the renovation process along the socialist line.

On behalf of the Soviet Communists and people, Comrade Gorbachev expressed his elation and warmly welcomed the achievements that the Vietnamese people under the CPV leadership have scored in the renovation process. Comrade Gorbachev sincerely expressed the hope that the CPV's Seventh Congress will be a fine success and that the

Vietnamese people will achieve new and even greater victories in building and defending the socialist Vietnam fatherland.

Informing Comrade Nguyen Van Linh of the restructuring in the Soviet Union and the emerging complex problems, Comrade Gorbachev asserted the determination of the Communist Party, leadership, and people of the Soviet Union to surmount difficulties and ordeals, overcome socioeconomic and political crises, maintain the renovation of a unified federation of sovereign republics, renovate and enhance the role of the Communist Party in Soviet society, and persist in their socialist choice.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh asserted the strong support of the CPV and the Vietnamese people for these efforts of the Soviet Communist Party and people to bring their country out of the crisis, continually develop along the line of the October Revolution, promote the great potential, and intensify the strength of the first socialist state in the world.

Visiting the Soviet Union right on the occasion of the anniversary of the victory over fascism, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh warmly congratulated Comrade Gorbachev, and through him all the Soviet people and armed forces. He stressed the boundless gratitude of the Vietnamese people for the glorious armed exploits of the great Soviet people and heroic Red Soviet troops who saved mankind from the fascist disaster and created favorable conditions for the revolution in many countries—including the August Revolution in Vietnam—to succeed.

The two leaders stressed the importance of the relations of friendship and solidarity between the two parties and the peoples of the two countries, and expressed their resolution to strengthen coordination with each other and constantly consolidate this traditional relationship.

On this occasion, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh on behalf of our party Central Committee invited a delegation of the CPSU to the CPV's Seventh Congress. Comrade Gorbachev expressed sincere thanks and promised to send a delegation of the CPSU to participate in this momentous event.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh and Comrade Gorbachev were pleased to realize that the relations of comprehensive cooperation between the two countries continue to develop in the spirit agreed upon at the May 1987 meeting as well as subsequent meetings between them.

The two comrades held that the recent working visit to the Soviet Union by Comrade Do Muoi, chairman of Vietnam's Council of Ministers, marked a new and important developmental step in that direction. The urgent task now is to expeditiously implement the agreements already concluded to meet the aspirations and interests of the peoples of the two countries.

Exchanging views on the international situation, the two leaders stressed the importance of accelerating the struggle to reduce tension in the world, peacefully settle conflicts, and intensify cooperation, security and development; respect the independence and sovereignty of all countries; and oppose outdated trends that run counter to the aspirations and interests of all nations.

Both comrades particularly stressed the need to coordinate action and increase efforts to turn the Asia-Pacific into a zone of peace, stability, and development.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh highly evaluated the initiatives and positive activities of the Soviet Union along the above-mentioned lines.

Comrade Gorbachev welcomed Vietnam's constructive foreign policy aimed at expanding the relations with other countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, and highly appraised Vietnam's efforts to restore normal relations with the People's Republic of China, promote the normalization of relations with the United States, and turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

Both comrades asserted the determination of Vietnam and the Soviet Union to contribute positively to an overall, just, and reasonable political solution to the Cambodian issue on the basis of respect for the independence and sovereignty of the Cambodian people.

Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Gorbachev held that this summit has opened great prospects for strengthening friendship and the relations of comprehensive cooperation between the two parties and the two countries, and contributed practically to the cause of peace and progress in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

Attending the talks on the Vietnamese side were Comrades Nguyen Manh Cam, party Central Commitee member and our ambassador to the Soviet Union, and Comrade Le Xuan Tung, alternate member of the party Central Committee and assistant to the general secretary of the party Central Committee. On the Soviet side was Comrade (Cherneyev), party Central Committee member and assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Labor Cooperation Delegation Visits USSR

BK0905152591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] The chairman of the Council of Ministers recently sent a delegation to the Soviet Union for talks with the Soviet Ministry of Labor and Social Issues with the aim of solving newly emerged problems in ther labor cooperation between the two countries. The delegation was led by Tran Dinh Hoan, minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare.

After a period of work, the Soviet Union and Vietnam discussed the following points:

1. All containers and boxes of goods belonging to Vietnamese laborers must be forwarded to their families in Vietnam shortly after custom clearance. A reinspection of these containers and boxes of goods can be made only under special cases in conformity with Soviet customs law.

The Soviet Ministry of Labor and Social Issues will continue working with the Soviet customs sector to facilitate the process of normalizing the inspection of boxes of goods to be sent home by Vietnamese laborers as well as to notify the Vietnamese labor management committee of the places, areas, or localities where Soviet customs officers have inspected boxes of goods of Vietnamese laborers and verified the lists of items that they can send home.

2. The Soviet Ministry of Labor and Social Issues will work with various Soviet agencies concerned to reduce freight charges for our laborers or compensate them for these freight charges, as well as to buy their air tickets for the trip back home. Vietnamese laborers traveling in the Soviet Union are allowed to buy air or train tickets at the same prices as Soviet citizens.

3. Regarding Vietnamese laborers in the Soviet Union at present, from now until July 1991, the Soviet side will notify us of the number of laborers allowed to stay on to continue their work and the number to be sent home for various reasons. The Soviet side will pay compensation to those who are compelled to be sent home before the expiration of contracts due to a reduction in force or the curtailment of production by the enterprises concerned.

Meanwhile, if their contracts are fulfilled, our laborers will be entitled to various types of fringe benefits, such as sending goods home and receiving free air tickets and accommodations for the trip back to Vietnam.

4. Regarding the labor cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union for the period from 1991 to 1995, the two sides agreed that the need to satisfactorily solve acute problems in labor cooperation at present is a premise for continuing cooperation in the days ahead. Both affirmed that the principle of cooperation is mutual benefit and that their governments will sign a framework agreement stipulating the fundamental principles on labor relations, consular relations, and relations in financial payment between the two countries.

On the basis of the framework agreement of the two states, all economic establishments and localities will establish direct relations of cooperation with each other. All specific matters in the supply and use of laborers must be agreed upon by the economic establishments concerned in their contracts. If there is no change whatsover, a team of Soviet specialists will arrive in Hanoi in May to exchange the contents of the framework agreement in preparation for the formal signing by the two countries.

As many as 60,000 Vietnamese laborers are now working at various enterprises and other economic organizations in the Soviet Union. In the last days of work of the delegation, our labor management in the Soviet Union disclosed that all boxes of goods and containers had been placed on board vessels ready to leave various ports for Vietnam.

News Conference Held on Congress Preparations

BK1305080091 Hanoi VNA in English 0703 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 13—The party Central Committee Commission for Ideology and Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs jointly held a press conference here recently on the preparations for the coming 7th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam spectifically intended for foreign newsmen, press attaches of foreign embassies and representatives of internationational organizations in Hanoi.

Tran Trong Tan, member of the party Central Committee and head of the sponsoring commission, answered questions of foreign journalists.

Answering a question by the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW on the reception of suggestions by party members and people to the party's draft documents, Tran Trong Tan said:

"A great many suggestion have been made to the draft documents of the party. The Central Committee has studied and analysed all of them, accepting all good ideas based on a sound theoretical and practical basis in order to amend the documents before submitting them to the congress.

"After the documents are approved by the congress, these documents will be studied by all party cadres and members and also popularized to the people so that party members and the broad masses might see what and how the party has received the suggestions. Of course, it is very difficult to say which ideas are the most correct and convincing among all these differing ideas. This is actually the task of the congress itself.

"As for the date of the party congress, there has been so far no change in the schedule. It depends on the preparations about the documents to be submitted to the congress. We are working very hard and hope to be able to keep to the schedule".

In reply to a question of REUTER relating to the political reforms, he said:

"Concerning the speculations about the possibility of political reforms in our country, the majority of our people are holding that over the past years there has been progress in the exercise of the people's democratic rights. They are now freer in their productive and business activities and visible progress has also been observed in the democratic functioning of the state apparatus, mass organizations, mass media, etc. In the matter of political reforms, we would like to draw your attention to an important fact, that is the National Assembly has decided to amend the country's constituion. To this end, a committee for amending the Constitution set up by the National Assembly has been working over the past one and a half years. It is hoped that the amended constitution may be submitteted to the National Assembly in July this year before it is subjected to discussions among the entire people. On the basis of those discussions, it will be again improved before going to the National Assembly for approval at a session late this year. This is actually the renewal in the organization and activities of the state apparatus to implement human rights and the citizen's democratic rights. We hope you would continue following our political reforms to see if they are broadened or clamped down".

Asked why many party members have been ousted from the party over the past years, Tran Trong Tan said:

"In our party life, the admission of new members and the dismissal of some others is a normal and regular work of the party. Those who were ousted from the party are those who have committed errors and violated the criteria of party membership defined in the party statute".

A correspondent of the Soviet television asked whether the debates in the Vietnamese press means the existence of different views within the party organization and so, there would be stirring, interesting and tense debates at the coming party congress. Tran Trong Tan said:

"It is true that there have been different opinions in the course of the discussions of the draft documents of the congress. However, only part of these views have been made public over the mass media. The congress will focus only on major questions. True to its traditions, the party requires its members to stay calm and clear-minded during discussions, to increase their mental effort while presenting their views as well as listening to others' views so as make their best contributions to finding correct and accurate solutions. Our party has had correct resolutions, partially correct resolutions and also some which are not correct. The incorrect resolutions are chiefly due to the lack of serious discussion and thinking and also the failure to base oneself on a sound theoretical and practical basis and accordingly, the yielding to voluntarism and wishful thinking.

"Our party has made self-criticism about this voluntarist tendency and drawn useful lessons. At the coming 7th party congress, we believe there will be arguments based on a high intellectual degree and a high sense of responsibility prompted by the concern for the country and people and these arguments surely will be very interesting, very heated maybe, but not tense."

Asked by an Austrian TV correspondent why Vietnam is convinced that socialism is the correct path, Tran Trong Tan said: "Our people believe in the party, in the socialist-oriented renovation, because they have witnessed initial but important successes in the implementation of the resolution of the sixth party congress. You must have seen our achievements in agricultural production, in curbing inflation, in implementing the programme of consumer goods, in the increasing exports, and other things.

"Our people have also seen real improvement in the spiritual life. They are now freer to doing business. The people-elected bodies now work in a more democratic way. All the laws have been submitted to public discussion before they are adopted. So are the important document of the party. The mass media has also been diversified and made multi-directional. The people have also found that the motto put forth by the sixth party congress "Known to the people, discussed by the people, done by the people and controlled by the people," has been observed. This is a decisive factor which makes them believe in the socialist-oriented path of renovation. Such are our experiences. So far, we are very happy to note that despite many difficulties, we have obtained initial achievements in many fields and we have maintained political stability. This makes the masses understand and believe in the party's leadership."

Asked by AFP how the Communist Party of Vietnam has responded to the different contributions of intellectuals to the documents of the congress, Tran Trong Tan said: "The intelligentsia has made many suggestions to the draft documents of the party congress. Before submitting the draft documents to discussion among party members and the entire people, the secretariat of the party urged party executives at all levels to see that freedom of expression be given full scope so that we might gather as many different opinions as possible. So, we think that the divergence of opinions is a welcome thing because it helps the party to see more broadly and to make accurate final decisions. Controversy in the process is normal because holders of different views should argue. We shall not know who is right and who is wrong until the party congress gives its verdict. The task of the congress is to do its best to have correct resolutions. These resolutions must undergo the test of life and may be amended or adjusted. That is why, all suggestions of the intellectuals made within their organizations, though they may differ from the views in the draft documents, are welcomed by the party. That is our party's viewpoint."

Asked by the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW if Duong Thu Huong was arrested for her diverging political view, Tran Trong Tan said: "Duong Thu Huong was once a party member, but she was dismissed for serious violations of the party discipline and her acts contrary to the party statuts. Recently, Duong Thu Huong was put under provisional arrest by the investigative organ for activities against the law on the defence of national security. Her provisional arrest for investigation in this case is necessary.

Official: Congress To Be Held 'Late This Month'

BK1005141891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1251 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Hanoi, May 10 (AFP)—The Communist Party will seek younger members for its Central Committee and Politburo during the seventh party congress set for next month, a party official was quoted as saying in Friday's NHAN DAN.

Nguyen Dinh Huong, a Central Committee member and a member of the personnel subcommittee of the party congress, said some 10,000 opinions collected on the problem from congress delegates reflected a wish for "renewal in terms of age."

According to these opinions the next Central Committee should represent three age groups: under-50, 50-59, and 60 or older, Mr. Huong said, noting an expressed preference for the 50-59 bracket.

While the next congress is likely to bring in many new faces, Mr. Huong said, "a small number of septuagenarians" who remain "sufficiently able and lucid" will be retained.

If these criteria are strictly applied at the seventh congress a large number of elderly members of the Central Committee and Politburo will be targetted, observers said.

Six of the 12 Politburo members, including Secretary General Nguyen Van Linh, State Council President and Premier Do Muoi, are 70 or older.

Other criteria to be met by the members of the next Central Committee will be "political solidity, competence, ethics and prestige," Mr. Huong was quoted as saying by the official daily.

"It will not be necessary that the main officials of the government ... or the provincial secretaries of the party be members of the Central Committee," he noted.

The collected opinions suggested that new Central Committee members should be committed to revamping government and party management to make it "compact and effective," he said.

The public wants guarantees of a democratic process in choosing the new leadership, Mr. Huong said.

He said the personnel subcommittee, which includes several members of the Politburo and the party Secretariat, will convey all these opinions concerning personnel to the 12th party plenum, which is to be held late this month.

'All Rumors' About Congress 'Groundless'

BK1105010891 Hanoi VNA in English 0642 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10—All rumours about concrete matters relating to the organizational and personnel work of the forthcoming seventh national party congress are groundless.

That remark was made by Nguyen Dinh Huong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Central Committee and member of the sub-commission for personnel work of the seventh party congress, at a meeting he had recently with the editors-in-chief of centrally-run newspapers and the radio and television.

Nguyen Dinh Huong said that the sub-commission comprises a number of Political Bureau members, party secretaries and party Central Committee members.

The sub-commission has widely canvassed the opinions of officials and party cadres and members in various ministries, branches of activity and mass organizations at the central as well as provincial or municipal levels on possible nominations for the elections to the party Central Committee at the forthcoming congress. He made known that so far the sub-commission has received tens of thousands of suggestions on this issue. He added that the sub-commission for personnel work continues collecting suggestions to be submitted to the coming session of the party Central Committee for consideration.

AFP: Armed Opposition Operates in Tay Nguyen

BK1005135691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1258 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Hanoi, May 10 (AFP)—An armed opposition group continues to operate in the high plains of Tay Nguyen in central Vietnam despite major mopping-up operations led by Hanoi over the last 15 years, the QUAN DOI NHAN DAN reported Friday.

The Army daily, quoting police officials, said a "small number of guerrillas" of the United Front for the Struggle of Oppressed Races (FULRO) still organizes "infiltrations" in hamlets and villages in Gia Rai-Kontum Province, near the border with Laos and Cambodia.

FULRO, the main armed opposition to the Hanoi regime in the central high plains when it was founded in the 1960s, still tries to "control the population," QUAN DOI NHAN DAN said.

FULRO's armed activities persisted after 1984, when the authorities announced a near-liquidation of its forces in a lengthy mopping-up campaign begun in 1975. Some 1,734 members of FULRO had been rounded up, of whom 358 were killed, and 600 firearms had been seized, the paper said.

Between 1985 and 1990 provincial police in the area mounted 63 raids in the highlands, killing some 102 FULRO members and capturing 167, the paper said, adding that local officials of 254 hamlets were found to be collaborating with FULRO.

The Army daily concluded that FULRO easily infiltrates the mountainous region populated by ethnic minorities, adding that in the 1985-1990 period some 10,125 FULRO collaborators surrendered to local authorities.

In response to the raids, the guerrillas changed their methods, "splitting into small groups implanted in villages and hamlets and setting up sanctuaries in the forests," the paper said, adding that they tried to "control and use local officials."

The QUAN DOI NHAN DAN said stepped-up activities by overseas Vietnamese hostile to Hanoi could encourage FULRO in the Gia Rai- Kontum area, which the daily said was "the target of foreign information services."

Defense Ministry Outlines Economic Policy

BK1305103491 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 10 May, in Hanoi, our Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a get-together of foreign newsmen to introduce our Army's participation in economic building. A large number of foreign mass media correspondents and press attaches to foreign embassies in Vietnam attended.

Lieutenant General Phan Thu, director of the General Economic and Technical Department [Toongr Cucj Kinh Tee vaf Kyx Thuaatj] of the Ministry of National Defense, outlined the positions and policies as well as the forms and results of our Army's economic activities. At present, in the entire Army there are nearly 60 organizations engaging in economic building. These organizations have been set up in the forms of general corporation, corporation, and union of scientific research and production enterprises. The defense industry sector has produced [words indistinct] and consumer goods in service of the three economic programs. Many of its products of high quality and attractive designs have won gold medals at various export goods fairs.

Australia

Reportage on Visit of Turkey's Ozal Continues

Ozal on Turkish Citizens Abroad

TA1105192491 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 11 May 91

[Excerpts] President Turgut Ozal has said that if Turks living abroad preserve their unity and solidarity without any conflicts then they will become a respected community.

Serdar Dimli from the TRT [Turkish Radio and Television] news center reports:

[Begin recording] Ozal left Sydney for Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian capital, today after concluding an official visit to Australia.

Before he left Australia, Ozal toured the construction site of the Auburn Mosque, being built with the participation of the Turks living in Sydney. Ozal was cheered by a crowd of Turks at the site.

Ozal addressed the crowd assembled there, calling on them not to feel deserted. A 56-million-strong Turkey is behind you, he said. He continued: This is a respected country, whose prestige in the world has increased and whose situation is much better than its neighboring countries. Ozal then announced that Turkish citizens living abroad will be able to profit from dual citizenship rights if they so desire, adding that the Foreign Ministry will be at their disposal on this issue. [passage omitted]

On his way from Sydney to Kuala Lumpur, Ozal had a chat with businessmen and journalists accompanying him. He recalled that certain Turkish groups played a more important role than foreigners in anti-Turkish campaigns abroad. [passage omitted]

Reviewing his visits to New Zealand and Australia, Ozal said that he believed in the importance of visiting these far away countries and meeting their people before engaging in increased economic relations.

Ozal will stay overnight in Kuala Lumpur before he leaves for Turkey tomorrow. [end recording]

Ozal Sums Up Visit to Journalists

TA1005194691 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1900 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] President Turgut Ozal has said that it is out of the question for Turkey to open the Iraqi oil pipeline until the embargo imposed on Iraq is lifted. Kandemir Alpan reports:

[Begin recording] Ozal, currently on a tour of Australia, had a chat in Sydney with Turkish journalists accompanying him. He said that trade relations between Turkey and countries like Australia, which have large raw material resources, can be diversified.

He announced that, in talks he held with Australian officials, it was decided that Turkish Airlines will establish charter flights between the two countries for passengers and cargo.

In response to questions by journalists, Ozal said that Turkey is carrying out lobbying activities in various countries, adding that as a result of these activities, the U.S. Congress rejected the Armenian bill last year.

On the issue of Iraqi refugees, Ozal said that some 100,000 of these have already returned to their country. He added that this figure will grow as their security problems are solved.

He also recalled, during the meeting, that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will visit Turkey on 18 and 19 May.

Replying to another question, Ozal said that, until the embargo imposed on Iraq is lifted, it is out of the question for Turkey to open the Iraqi oil pipeline.

Ozal will leave Australia for Malaysia tomorrow on his way back home. [end recording]

Ozal Addresses Crowd; Departs

TA1105164291 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1510 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Sydney (A.A)—President Turgut Ozal called on Saturday to Greece from Sydney, his last stop in his tour of the Far East, "we are 56 million, you are 10 million. You cannot cope with us."

Ozal addressed a crowd of around 5 thousand Turks here.

He said Greeks everywhere he went staged protests and demonstrations against him, sometimes to an extent of ugliness.

"They may shout as much as they want, it does not matter," Ozal said.

"They do it out of fear. They have taken a severe beating from Turks after the first World War. They have taken the Aegean Islands which were ours from Italians. We have ended their (Enosis) annexation to Greece dreams in Cyprus," Ozal went on.

"I recommend them to have good relations with Turkey. I tell them whatever power you hide behind, you cannot cope with Turkey. Today we are 56 million, you are 10 million. Turks in other countries are supporting our growing Turkey. Theirs is Greek clowning. The more they show rage the better it is understood that they are afraid," Ozal said.

Ozal Views Cyprus, Human Rights

TA1105191791 Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish 1655 GMT 11 May 91

[Excerpts] Kuala Lumpur (AA)—(Report by Deniz Yenal)—During a chat with Turkish journalists aboard the aircraft taking him from Sydney to Kuala Lumpur, President Turgut Ozal said that efforts to replace Arabic words with newly created Turkish words have impoverished the 500-year-old language of the Ottomans. [passage omitted]

In response to a question from journalists, Ozal said that although the Cyprus issue is important politically, it has no economic significance because of Cyprus' small size and population.

Replying to a question on Turkey's development in the next 10 years, Ozal said Turkey would become an element for stability in the Balkan and Caucus regions.

Pointing out that Turkey can also play an important role in the Middle East where there is a conflict of interests, Ozal said:

We have got to abandon our past trends favoring isolation. I do not mean that we should take part in confrontations or should favor certain parties over others. What I mean is to try to establish cooperation. You should visit all countries, exchange views with them. It is only by discussing issues that you reach a result.

Asked to comment on Turkey's negative image abroad in the field of human rights, Ozal said that in 10 years Turkey will not be different from any European country.

He continued: Naturally, we must also make efforts. Let us not forget that we have also made some mistakes, kept alive some taboos, and imposed some bans.

In reply to another question, Ozal said that demonstrations by Greek Cypriots and Armenians during his visit to New Zealand and Australia should not be taken seriously.

Meetings Held With Businessmen

BK1105081091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0709 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Sydney, May 11 (AFP)—Turkish President Turgut Ozal left Australia on Saturday after an official visit his hosts believe could lead to vastly increased trade between the two countries.

While Mr. Ozal's three-day visit as head of a trade mission was marred by protests over Turkey's human rights record, the president and his party could not have been more welcome as far as Australia's business community was concerned.

Mr. Ozal was accompanied by four leading Turkish politicians and 30 businessmen who came to discuss joint ventures and investment with Australian business leaders.

While Mr. Ozal was meeting political leaders and facing angry demonstrations by members of Australia's Greek Cypriot, Kurdish and Armenian communities, the businessmen were meeting their opposite numbers.

Australian trade officials say the visit is likely to result in new orders for products including wool, cotton and steel, double or treble the bilateral trade within two years and much more by the end of the century.

Australia's consul-general and senior trade commissioner to Turkey Karl Lisners said in a media interview that Turkey possibly offered the greatest potential for the expansion of Australian trade.

"Turkey is in a pivotal position to vast new markets in the USSR, the former East bloc countries and the Middle East," he said.

The government believes Australia is also strongly placed to supply the kind of communications and engineering expertise which Turkish companies need.

A focal point of the protest demonstrations was Australia's decision to give Mr. Ozal an honorary Order of Australia. Angry demonstrators booed and chanted during his appearances in Canberra on Thursday and in Sydney Friday night.

However, a large, friendly crowd greeted him at a Sydney mosque on Saturday. A strong contingent of police was on hand but no incidents were reported.

The secretary of Sydney's Turkish Islamic and Cultural Centre, Yilmaz Ersoy, said up to 5,000 people from all over the state gathered at the mosque to welcome the president.

"He is a perfect leader and we are very proud of him," said Mr. Ersoy. "It was a beautiful day."

Canberra Defends Award Decision

BK1305105291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0911 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Canberra, May 13 (AFP)—The government on Monday defended its decision to decorate Turkey's President Turgut Ozal with the Order of Australia despite reported Turkish allegations of human rights abuses in Australia.

On Saturday, Mr. Ozal ended a four-day visit during [which] Prime Minister Bob Hawke also voiced concern about Turkey's human rights record.

After Mr. Ozal left for home, reports in the Turkish press quoted a presidential spokesman as saying Australia had no right to criticise Turkey.

"In Australian prisons, 96 prisoners commit suicide each year due to torture and repression," the spokesman reportedly added.

Mr. Hawke's staff said Monday that the prime minister was unwilling to comment until he had studied a transcript of the reports. But Foreign Minister Gareth Evans told reporters that Mr. Hawke's remarks, made in talks with Mr. Ozal, were "moderate, balanced and justified."

Foreign Ministry officials said they had not yet seen a transcript of the Turkish spokesman's remarks. But Mr. Evans said that, if they were accurately reported, the remarks were an understandable reaction.

The situation in Turkey has "improved quite dramatically in recent times under the present government," he said.

Answering questions in the Senate on Monday, Mr. Evans rejected allegations of human rights abuses in Australia.

The Institute of Criminology here said the average number of suicides in Australian prisons over the past 10 years was less than 14 a year.

"There's no evidence to suggest that any of these cases were the result of torture or repression," Mr. Evans said. But, he told the senate, he did not expect to raise the matter formally and there was no question of stripping Mr. Ozal of his Order of Australia. "I think it is a separate and distinct issue," he said.

The government honoured Mr. Ozal because of Turkey's cooperation and hospitality at last year's pilgrimage by Australian veterans of the Gallipoli Campaign in 1915, Mr. Evans said.

Australian Government officials predicted Monday the row would disappear of its own accord, adding that the publicity given to Mr. Hawke's remarks, rather than their content, might have irritated the visiting Turkish delegation.

Mr. Hawke devoted three sentences to human rights in a six-page speech during a state banquet for Mr. Ozal on Friday.

"In our discussions this morning I raised Australia's concerns about reports relating to human rights in Turkey," the prime minister said.

"As you know, Australia takes a consistent approach to human rights worldwide. While noting our concerns, I also acknowledged your personal efforts to improve human rights in your country in the recent package of important legislation which we see as an important positive move on this issue."

Vanuatu's Lini 'Believed' in Sydney Hospital

BK1105095091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0857 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Sydney, May 11 (AFP)—Vanuatu's Prime Minister Walter Lini is believed to have slipped quietly into Sydney for hospital treatment Saturday following a heart attack 10 days ago—but no one is saying so officially.

An official at Sydney Adventist Hospital, where he was expected, said Saturday morning, "he is not here yet, but he is expected later today."

Several hours later another official at the hospital said she could not confirm whether Father Lini was there and would not put calls through to him, or take messages to him because she had been instructed that "he is not to be disturbed."

Fr. Lini, in his forties, was taken to Vila Central Hospital on May 3 after suffering what was described as "an uncomplicated heart attack."

The Prime Minister's Office said he would be able to return home in a few days but would need to rest for six weeks before resuming duties.

But he was examined by an Australian cardiologist visiting Vila along with a group from the Seventh Day Adventist Church and was reported to be going to Sydney for treatment at the adventist hospital on Saturday.

He was well enough by Friday to order or authorise a cabinet reshuffle.

Sources in Vila said Fr. Lini handed the foreign affairs portfolio to Donald Kalpokas, who remains health and education minister.

Mr. Kalpokas, who was stripped of the foreign affairs portfolio last year, is seen as a likely successor to Fr. Lini.

In the meantime, Finance and Housing Minister Sethi Regenvanu has assumed prime ministerial responsibilities during Fr. Lini's absence, Radio Vanuatu has reported.

Fr. Lini's right side is impaired as a result of a stroke he suffered while visiting Washington in 1987.

The Anglican priest who is leader of the Vanuaaku Party has been prime minister of Vanuatu since the Anglo-French condominium of New Hebrides gained independence in 1980.

In 1988, Fr. Lini survived an attempt to oust him by then-president George Sokamane and Mr. Sokamane's son-in-law Barak Sope, both of whom spent several months in prison.

Fr. Lini has recently assumed responsibility for several ministerial portfolios, fighting off a string of challenges to his leadership of the ruling party.

In October, he sacked his personal advisor and private secretary, Grace Molisa, then described as the most powerful woman in the country. And in February he dismissed her husband, Sela Molisa, as finance minister.

Papua New Guinea

Government, Rebels Blamed for '4,500' Deaths

BK1005074291 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] A Papua New Guinea [PNG] parliamentarian claims that 4,500 people have died in the last two years of the Bougainville crisis. (Michael Orgeo) told parliament in Port Moresby today that the government and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] must accept equal blame for what was called the death and vital hardship suffered by innocent Bougainvillians caught up in the conflict. More from Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent Brian Abbot.

[Begin Abbot recording] (Michael Orgeo) told parliament that 1,500 Bougainvillians have been killed in the fighting between troops and BRA rebels in the conflict and that more than 3,000 have died as a direct result of the blockade imposed on Bougainville by the PNG Government in May last year. Many were babies, children, and women giving birth. He blamed the deaths on food shortages and the absence of medicines and medical services. As well many people simply disappeared after interrogation by the BRA.

Mr. (Orgeo) called for PNG troops to be withdrawn from north Bougainville, for the Government to provide immunity from prosecution for the BRA, and for an international judicial inquiry into the conflict. It was Mr. (Orgeo's) first visit to parliament since 1989 after being held captive on Bougainville by the BRA for 17 months. [end recording]